

# International SURF Groups and Partners

8<sup>th</sup> March 2017

14.00 – 15.30pm UK Time

## Representatives:

- SuRF-Italy : Claudio Albano (CA) (Chair)
- SURF-USA : Barbara Maco (BM)
- SuRF-UK : Jonathan Smith (JS)
- NICOLE/SuRF-NL: : Laurent Bakker (LB)
- SuRF-Canada : François Beaudoin (FB)
- SuRF-Taiwan: Bing Nan Wang (BW)
- Secretariat : Nicola Harries (NH) CL:AIRE

## Apologies received:

- SuRF Japan : Yasuhide Furukawa (YF)
- SuRF-ANZ : Bec Costelloe (BC)
- SuRF-Brazil: James Henderson (JH)
- Representing China : Mengfang Chen (MC)
- SuRF Colombia : Alfonso Rodriguez (AR)

## AGENDA

1	<b>Welcome</b>
2	<b>Recent progress updates</b>
3	<b>Conferencing opportunities – Recent &amp; upcoming</b> Americana 2017 AquaConsoil 2017 NICOLE Spring Meeting 2017
4	<b>Actions to drive consistency between SuRF initiatives</b> International Sustainable Remediation Alliance Update on ISO on Sustainable Remediation SustRem 2018
5	<b>Any Other Business</b>
6	<b>Next meeting</b>

ITEM		ACTION
1.	<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <p>Claudio Albano (CA) on behalf of SuRF Italy chaired and welcomed everyone. The attendees confirmed they were happy with the agenda. CA provided a short introduction on the purpose of the SURF meetings being for cross country connections and for the promotion of international collaboration on sustainable remediation. In line with good practice, CA shared a safety moment in relation to the risks of avalanches particularly affecting skiing areas.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Introductions</b></p> <p>Everyone present gave a quick update on the different SuRF Groups and Partners current initiatives and work that they were undertaking in relation to sustain remediation.</p> <p><b><u>SuRF-ITALY</u></b></p> <p>Claudio Albano (CA) provided an update on behalf of SuRF-Italy. He confirmed that they are still working on finalising the technical framework to address the regulators comments. CA confirmed that much of his time is currently supporting the upcoming NICOLE Workshop titled “Creating Value Through Sustainable Land and Asset Management”. In addition, he is presenting at the national workshop organised by RECONNET in Rome in April where he will be presenting on SuRF Italy and ISRA, in coordination with Italian EPA (ISPRA).</p> <p><b><u>SuRF - Canada</u></b></p> <p>François Beaudoin (FB) provided an update on behalf of SuRF-Canada. FB confirmed that most of their efforts are currently going into Americana conference in Montreal in March 2017 . There will be a SuRF Canada session, a presentation by FB &amp; Barbara Maco (BM) on international collaboration and ISRA and a presentation on the work that SuRF Canada and SuRF US are working on collaboratively on the stakeholder engagement roadmap.</p> <p>SuRF Canada are looking at improving their website and providing more links to useful documents on other SuRFs websites. They will particularly focus on globally consistent guidance.</p> <p><b><u>SURF-Taiwan</u></b></p> <p>Bing Nan Wang (BW) provided an update on behalf of SuRF-Taiwan. He confirmed that the tool developed to measure GSR was published in 2016 and will be presented at Battelle Conference in May 2017. The tool can be used to evaluate different remedial technologies to optimise the best management practices in remediation.</p> <p><b><u>SuRF-UK</u></b></p> <p>Jonathan Smith (JS) provided an update on SuRF-UK. He confirmed that the main activities have been conference attendance and outreach. JS confirmed that the Special Issue publication on Sustainable Remediation through the Journal of Environmental Management was published just before Christmas. Link to the thematic journal is:  <a href="http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03014797/184/supp/P1">http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03014797/184/supp/P1</a></p>	

JS confirmed that the abstract for Aqua Consoil 2017 on behalf of SuRF-UK to run an interactive workshop to undertake a sustainability appraisal has been accepted and that he will be chairing a session on sustainable remediation at Battelle in May.

SuRF-UK steering group are planning a meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup> 2017 to discuss the next stage of SuRF-UK.

#### **SuRF-NL**

Laurent Bakker (LB) provided an update on behalf of SuRF-NL. He confirmed that SuRF-NL is organising a workshop that will now be held in April 2017. This workshop will provide a recap on the work of ISO, NICOLE and the worldwide work that has been carried out in sustainable remediation. SuRF NL going forward will be focussing on the area of sustainable land management.

#### **NICOLE**

NICOLE's Sustainable Remediation Working Group (SRWG) is now dormant and no meetings will be organized. NICOLE still recognises the importance of sustainable remediation and will promote the subject wherever possible. For example recently NICOLE was represented in China at a EU/Ministry of Environmental Protection China meeting and sustainable remediation was discussed. LB explained that the Chinese describe sustainable remediation (SR) as green and sustainable remediation (GSR) which seems to be quite common, whereas in Europe we only refer to SR. This is because the concepts are still in their infancy and "Green" is considered "good". Also the term GSR is possibly because this term has been used by ITRC.

#### **SURF-US**

Barbara Maco (BM) provided an update on SURF-US activities. They recently hosted **SURF 33: Sustainable Remediation – What We've Learned and Where We're Going** .

In 2017 they are working to demonstrate "the importance of SURF given the current political climate," and to document and continue the work of the U.S.EPA in greener cleanups/sustainable remediation and climate change adaptation.

As part of this initiative, on May 11 SURF US will participate in the National Adaptation Forum, a premier gathering of the adaptation-minded, that focuses on issues of the day - *established and emerging*.

<https://www.nationaladaptationforum.org/about>

SURF will facilitate a working session on their technical initiative: ***Climate Change and Resilience within Sustainable Remediation***. A public/private sector team is currently evaluating the planning, research, and activities needed to (1) ensure the long-term sustainability of site remediation from climate change impacts, and (2) examine the benefits of rehabilitated land to strengthen community and ecosystem resilience.

BM confirmed that the abstract "Progress in Sustainable Land Management Worldwide" was **accepted at AquaConsoil for an oral presentation in the theme session ThS 6a.4** – on Tuesday 27 June.

	<p><b><u>SuRF-JAPAN</u></b>  Yasuhide Furukawa (YF) was unable to attend in person so sent an update for NH to read out. He informed the SuRF network that the Bureau of Environment and Tokyo Metropolitan Government, held an annual forum of contaminated soil in early March 2017. Over 100 people attended, with the main topic this year being sustainable remediation.  There were four presentations. Dr Zhang, who is the vice chairperson of SuRF Japan, gave a presentation about SuRF-Japan and ISRA. YF gave a presentation about ISO standard and a case study.</p> <p>In addition, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government presented their new environmental master plan which mentioned sustainable remediation. They stated that they would start to consider the rational way of decision making from the environment, social, and economic aspects, through all phases of development and remediation.</p> <p>SuRF-Japan will hold their next meeting at the end of March 2017. They will discuss Best Management Practices (BMPs), the development of a road map and a framework in Japan.</p> <p><b><u>SuRF-Brasil</u></b>  No update was provided.</p> <p><b><u>SuRF-ANZ</u></b>  No update was provided.</p> <p><b><u>SuRF-Colombia</u></b>  SuRF Colombia group has been inactive for a year. However, Alfonso Rodriguez (AR) continues to support the Colombian Government (Ministry of Environment) in the design of an integral strategy to manage the contaminated sites and brownfields in Colombia. Some aspects of sustainable remediation were included in the first draft and this will now be publicly consulted on with stakeholders.</p> <p>The strategy includes technical guidance of risk assessment, sampling, analysis and limit values of contaminated in soil and groundwater.</p> <p>The peace process in Colombia has opened the opportunity to enforce remediation actions in some areas that had previously been abandoned in the country.</p> <p>AR is keen to reactivate the group this year.</p> <p><b><u>CHINA</u></b>  No update provided, however NH confirmed that she had recently visited China and discussed the idea of establishing SuRF China. There is great interest and there are internal discussions how this should now move forward.</p>	
3.	<p><b>Conferencing Opportunities:</b></p> <p><b><u>Americana 2017</u></b></p>	

	<p>FB described earlier what was being undertaken at Americana.</p> <p><b><u>AquaConsoil 2017</u></b></p> <p>In addition to the abstracts that had been mentioned in the different country updates, it was agreed that NH should contact the AquaConsoil organisers and ask whether ISRA can create a poster and have it displayed at AquaConsoil. This will be along the same lines of SuRF-International at AquaConsoil 2015 poster.</p> <p>The poster should add the key activities that SuRF-International/ISRA has done to demonstrate collaboration. This should include AquaConsoil (panel discussions), Battelle, input to ISO Standard and SustRem.</p> <p>It was confirmed that a number of chairs will be present at AquaConsoil 2017 so are happy to meet up.</p> <p><b><u>NICOLE Spring Workshop</u></b></p> <p>CA confirmed that he is the chair of the organising committee for the NICOLE Spring workshop. It is being organised in co-ordination with the Milan public authority. They have received 30+ abstracts for 12-15 speaking slots.</p> <p><b><u>Battelle Special Session</u></b></p> <p>JS confirmed that he is due to chair a panel discussion on sustainable remediation. There will be a mix of speakers from regulators, consultants and industry with some good case studies.</p>	<p>NH</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p><b>Actions to Drive Consistency between SURF Initiatives</b></p> <p><b><u>International Sustainable Remediation Alliance (ISRA)</u></b></p> <p>NH explained that the website has moved forward in light of feedback from the last meeting. People liked the look and suggested that further links to key documents should be provided such as standards &amp; frameworks. Rizzo 2016 paper should be a good starting point.</p> <p>The following groups should be written to and invited to join as partners. Three are partners in the Americana trade show and conference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blacksmith Institute</li> <li>• UN Foundation of Philanthropy</li> <li>• Equator Initiative</li> <li>• Canadian Brownfield Network <a href="https://canadianbrownfieldsnetwork.ca/">https://canadianbrownfieldsnetwork.ca/</a></li> <li>• Future Earth <a href="http://www.futureearth.org/who-we-are">http://www.futureearth.org/who-we-are</a></li> <li>• UN Global Compact <a href="https://www.unglobalcompact.org/what-is-gc/our-work/environment">https://www.unglobalcompact.org/what-is-gc/our-work/environment</a></li> </ul> <p>LB confirmed that his organisation has contacts with Blacksmith Institute, therefore agreed to provide contact details and pass to BM &amp; NH.</p>	<p>NH</p> <p>LB</p>

	<p>NH will circulate the draft letter again that Garry Smith prepared to ensure that SuRF groups are happy with the draft.</p> <p>NH will then co-ordinate with writing to key contacts.</p> <p><b><u>Update on ISO on Sustainable Remediation (ISO/TC 190/SC 7/WG 12)</u></b></p> <p>JS confirmed that he recently corresponded with Paul Nathanail (PN) and he confirmed that there is only some small scale editing now to be undertaken, so the final version should be available very shortly, hopefully before Easter.</p> <p>PN also had informed JS that once the ISO standard is published then work can start on daughter standards. JS confirmed that the idea of daughter standards was the first time he has heard about this and he was not aware of the titles of them.</p> <p>People agreed that it is important that any further standards do not make things too prescriptive and to ensure that they do not duplicate what has already been published and cause confusion. It was felt that efforts should focus on making resources freely available for all to use.</p> <p>It is also important to understand how the ISO fits in the broader sustainable land management agenda.</p> <p>JS will feed back if he hears more.</p> <p><b><u>SustRem 2018</u></b></p> <p>FB confirmed that there has been interest in countries hosting SustRem 2018. He will now engage with the different parties and ask for proposals. A small group of people will be asked to review the applications and make a decision on the successful candidate organisations.</p>	<p>NH</p> <p>NH</p> <p>JS</p> <p>FB</p>
	<p><b>Next meeting</b></p> <p>It was agreed that the next meeting should be held at AquaConsoil as many of the chairs will be present and SuRFs represented. For those that are not present, NH will endeavour to find a way to allow people to join virtually if they want. NH to liaise with the organisers of AquaConsoil and ask if a room could be available for the next meeting and communicate with the SuRFs.</p> <p><b>Action: NH to arrange a time and date.</b></p> <p>CA thanked everyone and brought the meeting to a close.</p>	<p>NH</p> <p>NH</p>