

# International SURF Groups and Partners

27<sup>th</sup> February 2013

8am Pacific Standard Time

**FINAL**

## Representatives:

- Stella Karnis - SURF-Canada : Chair
- Jonathan Smith - SuRF-UK
- Karin Holland and Nick Garson – SURF-USA
- Laurent Bakker – SuRF-NL
- Claudio Albano - SuRF-Italy
- Nicola Harries - CL:AIRE Secretariat

## Apologies received:

Sarah Mackay & Lucy Wiltshire – NICOLE  
Sanders Eskes - SuRF-Brazil  
Hans Slenders – SuRF-NL  
Garry Smith – SuRF-ANZ  
Mengfang Chen – Representing China

## AGENDA

Item	Topic/Desired Outcome
1.	<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>
2.	<b>Recent progress updates</b> ( <i>1 minute max per participant</i> ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Rapid update from SURFs/partnering organization</li><li>■ Current key initiatives that their group is working on</li></ul>
3.	<b>Upcoming conferencing opportunities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Americana – March 2013</li><li>■ AquaConsoil – April 2013</li><li>■ NICOLE – June</li><li>■ Battelle – June 2013</li><li>■ CleanUp September 2013</li><li>■ SusRem 2015</li><li>■ Other Events– collaboration?</li></ul>

- | Item | Topic/Desired Outcome  |
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| 4.   | <p><b>Actions to drive consistency between SuRF initiatives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Update on ISO on Sustainable Remediation outline proposal</li> <li>■ Training/Webinars/Seminars opportunities</li> </ul>   |
| 5    | <p><b>Special topic of interest:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Identifying and getting the right stakeholders into the discussion on sustainable remediation as “remediation teams” are probably the least equipped with dealing with social issues/indicators/measurements.</li> </ul> |
| 6    | <p><b>Next telecon meeting options.</b></p>  |

ITEM	ACTION
1.	<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <p>Stella Karnis (SK) welcomed everyone. Everyone agreed that they were happy with the agenda.</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 sustainability.</p> <p><b><u>SuRF-Canada</u></b></p> <p>SK explained that SuRF-Canada will be running a special session on sustainable remediation at Americana conference which will be held 19-21st March 2013 and they will be hosting their first SuRF-Canada meeting of the year at the conference. SuRF-Canada has been feeding into the ISO document and SURF US documents and working with British Columbia Ministry of Environment on case studies on green and sustainable remediation (GSR) projects.</p> <p>SuRF-Canada are also working on producing an information brochure on (GSR) which they hope will be out in March 2013. SuRF-Canada are currently surveying their group on what should their activities focus on for the longer term, this includes the idea of developing student chapters with Universities of Waterloo and Guelph.</p> <p><b><u>SURF-US</u></b></p> <p>Nick Garson (NG) introduced himself as the new President of SURF. He explained that the current SURF 22 meeting is currently on, where they are continuing to work in their work groups focussing on sustainable use of water in remediation and academic outreach and development of student chapters. At SURF 22 they have heard from Stanford University about the best way to engage with students and the universities expectations from industry.</p> <p>SURF is also making available to their members a list of tools that are available for sustainable remediation. They are also considering a compilation of case studies. Future, potential work that they are</p>

currently evaluating includes a rating system for professionals that undertake sustainable remediation appraisal and support for sustainable remediation research. They are also looking into the feasibility of providing educational credits for professional that attend their SURF workshops and endeavouring to increase their communication with their members and the different initiatives that will bring opportunities to engage with their members.

Karin Holland (KH) confirmed that the white paper that is to be produced on the international initiatives from SURF 21 is still in preparation, there has been some delay.

### **SuRF-UK**

Jonathan Smith (JS) confirmed that SuRF-UK is currently focussing resources on Phase 3 works which includes the development of an assessor kit to carry out a simple tier 1 sustainability assessment and carrying out the development of a series of Best Management Practices (BMP) aligned with the already published indicator sets. A free stakeholder workshop is being held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2013 where the draft outputs will be presented to get their views on the work and how things can be revised. Depending on the feedback, this work is hoped to be completed towards the end of the year. SuRF-UK is also gathering case studies and we hope to publish between 7 and 10. SuRF-UK will also be developing training materials to disseminate the Phase 3 work through webinars and workshops once complete.

SuRF-UK will be represented at Americana in March 2013, AquaConsoil in April, NICOLE meeting in June and CleanUp in September in Melbourne Australia.

### **SuRF-NL**

Laurent Bakker (LB) explained that they have been placing articles in National Magazines explaining the development of the SuRF-NL position paper and helping to promote the launching of a website. They are looking to extend the workshops to engage more with contractors. SuRF-NL will be attending AquaConsoil and taking part in the Sustainable Remediation Special Sessions.

### **SuRF-ITALY**

Claudio Albano (CA) explained that SuRF-Italy had its first workshop at RemTech Italy last September and SuRF-Italy was officially launched in December 2012. SuRF-Italy has started engagement with Italian Environmental Protection Agency and are starting to develop working groups for website and logo development, defining what SuRF – Italy products are needed and developing a white paper on regulatory framework and case studies.

### **SuRF-ANZ**

Garry Smith requested that Nicola Harries provide the following update in his absence:

In relation to Clean Up 21 Conference in Melbourne, there is a move to combine the conference sessions on an Australian National Remediation Framework (NRF) and sustainable remediation (SR) into one. The executive committee see the NRF session being focused on information sharing about its status and development, as well as seeing how they can link the NRF and the SURF Anz framework.

	<p>The committee also appears to accept the concept of a workshop to be held on the Sunday to feature training, rather than information sharing (which is within the remit of the conference proper). The SURF-ANZ workshop would concentrate on training in the application of the SuRF framework (including say, application of metrics).</p> <p>SuRF-ANZ would welcome SuRF Chairs and Presidents' attendance at Clean UP 2013 to participate in presentations and/or panelling and workshops in the SR sessions. Unfortunately I'm not at liberty to offer assistance with attendance as SURF-ANZ is currently finalising its sponsorship policy to attract funds for that type of purpose- won't be in time for 2013 conference planning and commitments.</p> <p>Garry Smith will email SuRF Chairs re the conference and if enough are to come then he will plan to hold a face-to-face out of sessions as per Vienna.</p> <p><b>All other SURF Networks and associates were not represented on the call therefore could not provide an update.</b></p>	
<p><b>3.</b></p>	<p><b>Upcoming conferencing opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ RemTech – 4 -6 March 2013</li> <li>■ Americana – 19-21<sup>st</sup> March 2013</li> <li>■ AquaConsoil – 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> April 2013</li> <li>■ Brownfield Conference – May 2013</li> <li>■ NICOLE – 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> June</li> <li>■ Battelle – 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> June 2013</li> <li>■ CleanUp - 21st September 2013</li> <li>■ RemTech – September 2013</li> <li>■ SusRem 2014? – Ferrara? As a follow on from SusRem – Vienna 2012</li> </ul> <p>The group confirmed that these are the different conferences that they are aware of coming up in the future that have a sustainable remediation theme or sessions that people are presenting at.</p>	
<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>Actions to Drive Consistency between SURF Initiatives</b></p> <p><b>Update on ISO on Sustainable Remediation</b></p> <p>JS explained that the ISO on Sustainable Remediation had been formally approved and the first kick off meeting was held in January 2013 and is being led by Paul Nathanail. Paul Nathanail has drafted an outline for comment with individual's names against different sections to write and review. The timeframe is tight, with all drafting to be completed in six months. The first draft is due at the end of March, with internal review mid April with Paul Nathanail pulling the first draft together in May 2013. The whole document needs to be ready for ISO Technical Review by the end of July 2013 where the document will be voted on at ISO. The target length is 30 pages.</p> <p>KH explained that in the US the group that would undertake the review</p>	

	<p>for the USA would be American National Standards Institute (ANSI) however they do not have an internal review group who work in the remediation sector therefore SURF are looking to take on this role. They are currently looking into the implications of this.</p> <p>KH also confirmed that SURF are in discussions with Carlos Pachon what the EPA stance would be in respect to an ISO standard on Sustainable Remediation.</p> <p>It was asked who had come up with the list of reviews and authors for the ISO standard and it was explained that it was people who volunteered. It was agreed that it was very important who the writers are to ensure that the message is consistent.</p> <p>There was also discussion on the original scope of the document and how this had changed but people were unaware where the changes had come from. Particular reference was made to a new section on "Governance Models" which it was agreed it was felt was not appropriate to be included in a standard.</p> <p><b>***Post Meeting Note***</b></p> <p>Paul Nathanail confirmed that the Role of Governance item in the ISO document has always been there and was in the text put forward for approval by ISO last year.</p> <p><b>Training/Webinars/Seminar Opportunities for collaboration</b></p> <p>CL:AIRE are developing a series of E-Learning Sustainable Remediation Appraisal Training Courses which will be out late Spring 2013.</p> <p>SURF undertook a webinar with Air, Waste Management, this is in a series of 4.</p> <p>ITRC has been running a series of successful webinars on Green and Sustainable Remediation, these are now available as podcasts from the CLU-IN website.</p>	
5.	<p><b>Special topic of interest:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Identifying and getting the right stakeholders into the discussion on sustainable remediation as "remediation teams" are probably the least equipped with dealing with social issues/indicators/measurements.</li> </ul> <p>SK wished to discuss this topic on the back of SURF 21 in Washington where there was discussions about better engagement with the right stakeholders particularly in relation to social indicators.</p> <p>SuRF-Canada has tried to establish regional leads to increase the network of people getting involved in their work and bring forward social issues. They are trying to involve more social scientists so that they can learn from them and incorporate their views.</p> <p>SK asked what others are doing?</p>	

	<p>JS explained after Washington he had had a discussion with a Social Scientist Dr Suzi Molyneux-Hodgson of Sheffield University who he had worked with on other projects and discussed the work that SuRF-UK had developed and how people are worried that the contaminated land/remediation industry are not engaging enough with a broad enough base of stakeholder to get a good grasp of the “social “ impacts of a project . JS explained the type of questions that he would typically pose.</p> <p>Her response to the type of questions was that “she wouldn’t ask those type of questions” but they were fair questions and nothing was wrong with them. The main point would be “Who has the right to make these decisions ?” How she would approach it would be more free flowing, having conversations allowing everyone to have a voice into a pragmatic solution. She suggested that there was nothing wrong with the framework but not to monetise or put numbers to things. Keep things qualitative and as simple as possible. Just ensure that stakeholders have a voice and their perspectives are considered and heard.</p> <p>JS confirmed that his conversation was very reassuring and something that he will discuss further at SURF-UK.</p> <p>JS also explained that he had provided Dr Suzi Molyneux-Hodgson’s contact details to Paul Nathaniel for the ISO work.</p> <p>SURF in the USA has been looking at this aspect and are looking to engage with more sociologists for the next SURF meeting in July 2013.</p>	
6.	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>It was asked about progress of Paul Bardos’ Thematic Journal on Sustainable Remediation. It was confirmed that a further meeting is to be had and Paul is hoping to engage with a suitable journal soon.</p> <p>Laurent Bakker asked if anyone was aware of the announcement in Austria that they have now amended their environmental legislation to incorporate sustainable appraisal. LB to send NH the link for circulation.</p> <p>KH asked NH whether she has had any dialogue with SURF Taiwan or SURF Japan? NH has not so KH has agreed to forward contact details so NH can invite them to join.</p> <p>NH reminded those on the call that the SuRF International web page is now up and running and to link to this page from their respective SURF pages and to check all the details are correct. The address is: <a href="http://www.claire.co.uk/surfinternational">www.claire.co.uk/surfinternational</a></p> <p>Finally it was agreed that regulators will not be invited to attend the SURF and Partners meetings unless they are representing an international SuRF group or are asked to attend to discuss a specific subject matter. NH to feedback .</p>	<p>LB</p> <p>KH &amp; NH</p> <p>ALL</p>
7.	<b>Next telecon meeting</b>	

	<p>It was agreed that the next teleconference should be held at the end of May/beginning of June 2013 and chaired by Europe. NH to contact the different representatives to ask for a volunteer.</p> <p>The meeting was brought to a close with thanks to those that were able to attend.</p>	NH
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