

International SURF Groups and Partners

5th December 2018

7.00 – 9.00am London Time

Meeting No. 21

Representatives:

- SuRF-ANZ : Tony Scott (chair)
- SURF-USA : Barbara Maco
- SuRF-Canada : Morgane Alloyer
- SuRF-UK : Hayley Thomas
- SuRF NL: Laurent Bakker and Tessa Verschoor
- SuRF-Taiwan: Yu-Chen Su and Kavan Zan
- Secretariat : Nicola Harries CL:AIRE

Apologies received:

- SuRF-Japan : Yasuhide Furukawa
- SuRF-Italy : Claudio Albano
- SuRF-Colombia : Alfonso Rodriguez
- NICOLE: Hans Slenders
- SuRF Brazil : James Henderson/Olivier Maurer

1.	Welcome Tony Scott (TS) welcomed everybody and asked people to speak slowly and clearly. The agenda was agreed.
2.	Recent progress updates All SuRFs that were present provided a brief update of their activities. For those SuRFs unable to attend and had sent a report, Nicola Harries shared their reports. SuRF-Taiwan Dr Yu-Chen Su provided an update on behalf of SuRF Taiwan. He explained that after lengthy discussions, Taiwan EPA is now considering to put a Green and Sustainable Remediation (GSR) framework into the guidelines for remediation projects. This will mean that all clean-up projects in Taiwan will need to evaluate all aspects of GSR and implement Best management Practices (BMPs) during the life span of a remediation project. Yu-Chen Su explained that although there are guidelines for GSR there is still some conflicts between stakeholders, local Environmental Protection Bodies (EPB) and central EPA. SuRF-Taiwan are working on developing these relationships. SuRF-Taiwan has recently completed a cartoon to introduce GSR to try and spread the concepts of GSR to the general public and stakeholders. This will be uploaded shortly on youtube. Professor Hsue is organising a special issue of Green and Sustainable Remediation, an open access journal called "Sustainability". He would like to encourage ISRA members to share experiences of Sustainable Remediation and

Green and Sustainable Remediation in this journal. The deadline for papers is 31st March 2019. Further information is available: http://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/special_issues/contaminated_site

SuRF-UK

Hayley Thomas (HT) explained that SuRF-UK steering continue to work on a number of different workstreams. Recently Nicola Harries presented at SustRem 2018 a presentation titled “Debunking the myths of sustainable remediation”, Hayley Thomas presented the same paper at NICOLA in South Africa. The presentation is based on a paper that Jonathan Smith has prepared and which has been accepted in Remediation Journal and it is hoped will be published shortly.

HT confirmed that SuRF-UK is continuing with the preparation of an animation on sustainable remediation, the first stage of design is almost complete. SuRF-UK is aiming to showcase it at Aqua Consoil 2019 Special Session if accepted.

HT confirmed that following the publication of “The development and use of sustainability criteria in SuRF-UK’s sustainable remediation framework”, SuRF-UK it is embarking on a review of its Annex 1 indicator set. A public consultation is currently being prepared and it will be circulated widely including overseas. SuRF-UK will ensure that ISRA members are issued a link to the questionnaire. This will be going out early January 2019.

HT confirmed that SuRF-UK had submitted a number of abstracts for platform presentations for Aqua Consoil 2019 along an abstract for a poster for ISO standard.

SuRF-NL

Tessa Verschoor (TV) provided an update of SuRF-NL activities. She explained that currently SuRF-NL are more passive because there is a lot of legislative changes including changes to the Environment Act occurring in the Netherlands which is creating uncertainty. SuRF-NL are preparing an article for a Dutch magazine explaining about sustainable remediation and demonstrating there is more than just dig and dump. Due to the uncertainty about the new legislation, the workshop planned earlier this year will now be held next year once there is more certainty. It will be focused on nature based solutions linking to sustainability approaches.

NICOLE

Laurent Bakker confirmed that NICOLE is now focusing its activities on Land Stewardship since the publication of their booklet.

http://www.nicole.org/uploadedfiles/NICOLE_CF_Landstewardship_A5_Booklet_digital.pdf

At the last NICOLE meeting in November the working group discussed how to move the initiative forward now they have published this booklet. This is currently being scoped up.

SuRF-ANZ

Tony Scott (TS) provided an update of activities for SuRF-ANZ. He explained that SuRF-ANZ rolled out a half day workshop on the ISO Sustainable Remediation around Australia capital cities in mid-2018 and then hosted a Special Session on sustainable remediation at EcoForum. The ISO Sustainable Remediation workshops has good attendance (typically 20-40 per session with some sold out), while the session at EcoForum had approximately 100 attendees. For the ISO workshops SuRF ANZ had teamed up with CRC Care and the Infrastructure Sustainability Council of Australia (ISCA) and local regulators. The focus of the workshop was on the ISO sustainable remediation. ISCA’s latest rating tool identifies the ISO standard on sustainable remediation. SuRF-ANZ are planning to reach out to New Zealand and promote the ISO standard there next as well as running a shorter session in locations where the workshop sold out. The workshops were well attended with a mixture of delegates including regulators, site owners, consultants and contractors.

2019, SuRF-ANZ plan to continue to roll out more training for awareness raising.

SuRF-Canada

Francois Beaudoin (FB) was unable to attend but sent the following report. SuRF Canada will be participating in the Americana conference and tradeshow to be held in Montreal in March 2019. SuRF Canada will be organising a 1.5 hour session on sustainable remediation. They are hoping to present the results of a pan-Canada survey led by the Canadian Brownfield Network, the the state of Canadian Brownfields. This project is intended to give us a comprehensive snapshot of what is happening in Canada at multiple levels of government, private sector and at the community level.

SuRF-Japan

Yasuhide Furukawa (YF) was unable to attend but sent the following report.

The first version of the SuRF Japan Whitepaper for Sustainable Remediation has been completed. It is now being peer reviewed by some academic authorities. It is anticipated that the revised whitepaper will be available March 2019.

Board members of SuRF-Japan visited a number of UK brownfield sites including Eden project, Lady of the North and London Olympic site. Thanks to Paul Bardous, SuRF-UK for organising this.

It is anticipated that Board members of SuRF-Japan will attend AquaConSoil 2019 and participate in the special session if accepted.

A Sustainable Remediation Consortium and SuRF Japan plan to hold a lecture meeting on Sustainable Remediation with Japanese Electric and Electronic (E&E) Industrial Associations*. Through this meeting, SuRF Japan will seek the opportunity to implement the concepts of a Sustainable Remediation.

*Note: The Japanese Electric and Electronic (E&E) industrial associations comprise - Japan Electronics and Information Technology Industries Association (JEITA);

Japan Electrical Manufacturers' Association (JEMA); Japan Business Machine and Information System Industries Association (JBMA) and Communications and Information Network Association of Japan (CIAJ).

SURF

Barbara Maco (BM) provided an update on behalf of SuRF.

SURF is continuing its partnership with AEHS and as such will sponsor a session and panel discussion at the Spring 2019 AEHS conference in San Diego, California.

Climate Resiliency

SuRF international teams' two year research findings will be published in the Remediation Journal in early December 2018 titled: "*Resilient remediation: Addressing extreme weather and climate change, creating community value.*"

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/rem.21585>

SURF's recommendations for resilient remediation build on resources and drivers from state, national, and international sources, and marry the practices of sustainable remediation and climate change adaptation.

The SURF report outlines general principles, state of the art assessment tools and site-specific protocols, and provides global examples of mitigation and adaptation strategies. SURF's recommendations can guide owners and project managers in developing a site resiliency strategy.

Resilient remediation can help expedite cleanup and redevelopment, decrease public health risks, and create jobs, parks, wetlands, and resilient energy sources—helping to achieve public and private sector goals for sustainable land management, climate action, clean energy and sustainable cities.

SURF is partnering with State of Massachusetts and the NGO EcoAdapt to (1) conduct expanded vulnerability assessment and sensitivity analysis of Massachusetts hazardous waste sites, and (2) develop pilot site model for climate resilient sustainable remediation. We also plan to assess the social equity and economic value of these pilot sites.

SURF is discussing additional pilot projects with the Interstate Technology Regulatory Council (ITRC) and ASTM International. We welcome other partners and pilot projects.

SuRF-Colombia

Alfonso Rodriguez was unable to attend but sent the following report on behalf of SuRF-Colombia.

Colombia continue waiting for the new regulations of Environmental Liabilities and Contaminated Sites that include some aspect related with Sustainable Remediation methodology and process. There are an increase of projects for risk assessment of contaminated sites by lead and mercury but no concrete actions for interventions or remediation.

New research studies are being generated from some universities in the use of biocarbon with local biomass, earthworms and native plants in the search for intervention alternatives such as sustainable remediation.

The task of the local group is to make a compilation of these studies and to make a review article by the end of 2019.

SuRF-Brasil

Olivier Maurer (OM) was unable to attend the call but confirmed that all SuRF-Brasil's efforts had been spent organising SustRem 2018 which was a resounding success.

SuRF-Italy

Claudio Albano (CA) was unable to attend but informed the group that there was no specific news with regard to SuRF Italy. CA however provided feedback from the Remtech conference held in Italy in September (see below).

3.

Feedback from Events

RemTech, Ferrara Italy September 2018 – Claudio Albano (CA) attended and confirmed that it's the most important remediation event in Italy occurring every year in September. It has expanded from a very local exhibition and conference, towards a more international event thanks to the addition of a specialty RemTech Europe session (organized by an International Organizing Committee). CA presented on behalf of NICOLE about the Land Stewardship booklet that NICOLE and Common Forum developed together which was very well received. RemTech Europe's Chair Ana Paja Perez (from European Commission Directorate D. Sustainable Resources Land Resources Unit D.3), is leaving her role and Marco Falconi (Italian EPA -ISPRA) is now to become chair.

EcoForum Conference, Sydney Australia October 2018 – SuRF ANZ participated in a special session on sustainable remediation which was well received. Over 600 delegates attended the whole conference with 100 attending the special session.

34th Annual International Conference on Soils, Sediments, Water, and Energy in San Diego, USA October 2018 – SURF participated in a workshop on sustainable remediation. It was well received.

SustRem 2018 Sao Paulo, Brasil October 2018 – SuRF UK participated by presenting a platform presentation. Over 400 delegates attended. Presentations were wide reaching with a large focus on societal impacts of remediation and community engagement. People were also able to join the conference remotely

	<p>which was very good. Unfortunately, this was confirmed quite late on so unsure the numbers that joined remotely.</p> <p>NICOLA 2018, Johannesburg, South Africa – SuRF UK participated by presenting a platform presentation. This was well received. This was the fourth NICOLA conference and is getting bigger and bigger.</p> <p>Forthcoming Events</p> <p>Americana, Montréal Canada March 2019 – SuRF Canada are organising a special session on sustainable remediation. Still to be confirmed but Olivier Maurer is also hoping to attend Americana and share the SustRem 2018 learnings during the SuRF-Canada session and a NICOLE representative to attend to present on the Land Stewardship initiative.</p> <p>AquaConsoil Antwerp Belgium May 2019 – SuRF UK, USA, ANZ, Japan, NL intend to attend and hopefully participate in a special session on sustainable remediation in addition to present a number of platform presentations (subject to acceptance).</p> <p>EHS Conference, San Diego – SURF intend to participate in this conference.</p>
4.	<p>Opportunities to drive consistency and collaborate between SuRF initiatives</p> <p>AquaConsoil 2019 Nicola Harries (NH) confirmed that the an abstract for the Special Session has been submitted to profile work that is being undertaken globally.</p> <p>SustRem 2020? NH explained that a host for SustRem 2020 has not yet been found. If a new host is to be found it ideally needs to be announced in the Spring 2019 to provide enough time for call for abstracts etc. NH explained that nobody owns SustRem it tends to piggyback on another conference supported by a SuRF in that country or a body that is interested in increasing the awareness of sustainable remediation. Last time there was more than one organisation wanting to host SustRem so proposals were put together and a small group of people evaluated them. The successful host is supported by people who have hosted previous SustRem.</p> <p>Hayley Thomas will discuss with NICOLA if this is something that they may be interested in hosting to raise the profile further about sustainable remediation.</p> <p>Post meeting note: <i>Olivier Maurer (who unfortunately was unable to attend the call) confirmed that after talking with the SustRem 2018 organizing committee (Ekos/NICOLE Brazil), and a few people during the NICOLE Bristol workshop in November, the SustRem Brazilian committee would be interested in joining efforts to help organise a successful SustRem 2020 in South Africa. It was felt that this would be a good follow-up, after leaving Europe to go to Montréal, then south to Sao Paulo, it would be a great initiative to cross the Atlantic and continue the debate in Africa.</i></p> <p>Action: All to think and make enquiries of potential hosts</p> <p>Sharing Case Studies Tony Scott (TS) explained that SuRF ANZ are often getting requests for case studies where sustainability has been considered. SuRF ANZ has been running an annual competition for case studies which has grown the number of examples but they have not got as many as they hoped. He thought pooling resources may be a good way to share good practice.</p> <p>Barbara Maco (BM) explained that SuRF has been quite successful gathering case studies. They published a template for people to use. Not all are perfect examples of sustainable remediation but certain aspects may be highlighted. All are available on SURF website.</p>

	<p>SuRF-UK also developed a template and published a few case studies but it has not been something that SURF-UK have chase recently. It was a work stream that we highlighted was required but other activities took over. SuRF UK may send out requests again in 2019.</p> <p>NICOLE also gathered a number of case studies that are available on their website.</p> <p>TS will follow up with the suggestions and put links on the SURF ANZ website to published case studies.</p> <p>Other Opportunities Land Stewardship is a broader subject than sustainable remediation and is an interesting growing concept. NH explained that the National Brownfield Forum (NBF) in the UK is currently discussing whether it should be having a working group on Land Stewardship/Natural Capital as this is an area of growth in the UK and members of the NBF contributed to the NICOLE Land Stewardship booklet. NH explained that one of her presentations in SustRem she demonstrated how low value land can have societal and environmental benefits if regenerated as green public open space. The Land Trust www.thelandtrust.org.uk leads on this in the UK and has had huge success.</p> <p>Barbara Maco (BM) said that this is growing in interest in the US as a recent article in New York Times profiled an impaired site to become public open space and highlighted the health benefits of such sites for local communities.</p> <p>Tony Scott thought that this concept would also be interest to SuRF ANZ members.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>ISO Update</p> <p>Tony Scott (TS) provided an update on ISO sent by Paul Nathanail.</p> <p>The consolidation of ISO TC190 committees has now taken place. This was largely driven by the need to have a structure that reflects the resources available to TC190 from the member national standards bodies.</p> <p>ISO18504:2017 will need to be reviewed sometime between 2020-2022.</p> <p>The work of SuRF ANZ in disseminating and operationalising the ISO has been invaluable in helping practitioners and regulators appreciate how to use the standard within existing working and regulatory practices. This includes a simple aide memoire that can be used to ensure the standard has been adhered to when claiming a site specific remediation is sustainable remediation. This was well received at the NORDROCS 2018 conference in Denmark this year.</p> <p>The next steps for the ISO work is to decide whether and which daughter standards to focus on. The SURFs that have members on national standard body committees shadowing the work of ISO TC190 would be the obvious members of an ISO initiative.</p> <p>The upcoming Aquaconsoil is also an opportunity to re-emphasise the need to comply with the ISO if claiming that work is sustainable remediation through the proposed Special Session.</p> <p>Laurent Bakker (LB) confirmed that the Netherlands has endorsed the ISO standard as an European Standard. Nicola Harries confirmed that it has also been adopted as a British Standard.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Laurent Bakker asked if any of the SuRFs were aware of a recently published draft technical note issued by United States Department of Agriculture “Recommended Standard Methods for use as Soil Health Indicator Measurements.” It is currently out for consultation that closes on 13th December 2018.</p>

	<p>Further information and to download the document:</p> <p>https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detailfull/national/soils/health/?cid=nrcseprd1315420</p>
6.	<p>Next meeting March 2019 which Barbara Maco confirmed that she is happy to chair.</p> <p>ACTION: NH to arrange the next meeting.</p>