

International SURF Groups and Partners

11thth November 2020

1.00 – 2.30pm London Time

Meeting No. 26

Representatives:

- SuRF-UK : Paul Bardos (chair) & Alan Thomas
- SURF-USA : Roy Thun
- SuRF-ANZ : David Tully
- SuRF-Taiwan: Bing Nan Wang
- NICOLE Latin America/SuRF Brazil : Joyce Cruz Di Giovanni
- SuRF-Canada : François Beaudoin
- SuRF-Colombia : Alfonso Rodriguez
- SuRF France: Pierre Jolly
- Secretariat : Nicola Harries CL:AIRE

Apologies received:

- NICOLA: Hayley Thomas
- NICOLE: Hans Slenders
- SuRF-Japan : Yasuhide Furukawa
- SuRF-Italy : Claudio Albano

1.	Welcome Paul Bardos (PB) welcomed everybody. The agenda was agreed and Nicola Harries (NH) provided apologies. PB welcomed Pierre Jolly (PJ) who was observing the meeting
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, their reports were added for completeness. SuRF-Colombia Alfonso Rodriguez (AR) provided an update on behalf of SuRF Colombia. He confirmed that due to COVID little activity has been undertaken. They are still waiting for new legislation from the government. AR confirmed that over the last 6 months there has been a lot of evaluation and risk assessment work carried out in relation to recovering mercury from the environment that is a result of illegal mining. This work is being supported by the USEPA and a pilot test was carried out last month. When the results are finalised, he will share with the SuRF community. SuRF-Taiwan Bing Nan (BN) attended on behalf of SuRF-Taiwan. He confirmed that Taiwan is now back to normal practice and meetings are now occurring. Budget has been secured for 2021 and they will be planning an international conference in 2021 on sustainable remediation. When They will be inviting some international speakers.

BN confirmed that they are looking at remodelling their existing Green and Sustainable Remediation (GSR) framework to be more in line with SuRF-UK's framework. Following feedback, they are looking to simplify gathering of data for the Best Management Practices. They are hoping that these changes will improve the implementation of GSR practices in 2021.

SuRF-Canada

Francois Beaudoin (FB) provided an update on behalf of SuRF-Canada. He confirmed that due to COVID progress has been on hold. He confirmed that SuRF-Canada is continuing with the formalising of the legal structure of SuRF-Canada. They are also looking at ways to raise the profile and awareness of SuRF-Canada.

SuRF-ANZ

David Tully (DT) provided an update on behalf of SuRF-ANZ. He confirmed that ALGA (the parent organisation of SuRF ANZ) held really successful virtual conferences in Australia and in New Zealand in September. SuRF-ANZ featured in special sessions at both. SuRF-ANZ focus currently is looking at developing training and they are reviewing CL:AIRE's Sustainable Remediation Appraisal modules to see if these are appropriate and can be used/adapted for the SuRF ANZ framework. DT also confirmed that ALGA's annual awards are also coming up which has a Sustainable Remediation category and SuRF-ANZ members are assisting in judging.

SURF

Roy Thun (RT) provided a SURF update. RT confirmed that SURF is continuing with their webinar series which they are planning to continue next year with guest speakers. RT also confirmed that SURF has revisited their vision and mission statement and this will be published soon. RT explained that SURF is broadening the application of remediation to include any degraded environmental condition, which they feel will encourage participation beyond contaminated sites.

NICOLE Latin America

Joyce Cruz Di Giovanni (JC) provided an update on behalf of NICOLE Latin America. She confirmed that NICOLE Latin America has been working closely with EKOS conference on two workshops that were held on October 28th and 30th 2020. These workshops were focusing on a complex area in Sao Paulo in the Jurubatuba neighbourhood which was contaminated. The workshops were sharing the case study of how multiple stakeholders had been involved in bringing a solution to addressing the contamination issues. There were different sessions on sustainable remediation and circular economy and the development of conceptual site models. The workshop was extremely well received and a novel way of presenting how sustainable remediation can be delivered on a real case study.

JC confirmed that NICOLE Latin America has now successfully developed 20 podcasts in Portuguese and English. These podcasts allow people to discuss different aspects of sustainability. JC invited other chapters to get in touch if they are interested in recording a podcast.

NICOLE Latin America is actively preparing for next year's activities and this will include a hackathon.

SuRF-NL/NICOLE

Hans Slenders (HS) was unable to attend but confirmed that SuRF-NL is no longer proceeding as an entity. He confirmed that NICOLE continues its focus on land stewardship and they have now published their interactive guide. It is available: [https://nicole.org/pagina/47/Land Stewardship Guide.html](https://nicole.org/pagina/47/Land_Stewardship_Guide.html)

SuRF-UK

Paul Bardos (PB) and Alan Thomas (AT) provided a SuRF-UK update. They confirmed that SuRF-UK has now published its update to Annex 1 indicator set as

two reports Supplementary Reports 1 & 2 . Annex 1 has now been officially withdrawn. SR1 & 2 are available from SuRF UK's web page www.claire.co.uk/surfuk

Supplementary Report 1 of the SuRF-UK Framework: A General Approach to Sustainability Assessment for Use in Achieving Sustainable Remediation (2020)

Supplementary Report 2 of the SuRF-UK Framework: Selection of Indicators/Criteria for Use in Sustainability Assessment for Achieving Sustainable Remediation (2020)

Supplementary Report 2 - Indicators Appendix 1 (2020)

In addition, PB confirmed that a paper has been prepared and published in Remediation Journal as open access. The paper explains the 15 headline indicators and the reasoning behind the selection of each. The full reference is here:

"Sustainability Assessment Framework and Indicators Developed by SuRF-UK for Land Remediation Option Appraisal. Bardos, R.P., Thomas, H.F., Smith, J.W.N., Harries, N.D., Evans, F., Boyle, R., Howard, T., Lewis, R., Thomas, A.O., Haslam, A, and Dent, V.L. 2020. Remediation Journal, Open Access. <https://doi.org/10.1002/rem.21668>"

PB confirmed that he presented on the updated guidance for SuRF in early Summer. PB also confirmed that CL:AIRE's Sustainable Remediation elearning modules are currently being updated and will hopefully be available by the end of the year.

SuRF-UK is also currently updating its Sustainable Management Practices document to bring it up to date and add further guidance about procurement practices. In addition AECOM are updating the xls tier 1 qualitative sustainability assessment tool in light of SR1 & 2 being published for SuRF-UK.

Finally, AT wanted to make the SuRF chapters aware that the UK government has recently updated their guidance to approaching land contamination. It is called Land Contamination Risk Management (LCRM)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/land-contamination-risk-management-lcrm>

this replaces the CLR11 guidance that SuRF-UK framework linked to. LCRM has now extended its links to sustainability and actively supports a sustainable approach to land contamination risk management and signposts to SuRF-UK framework, SMP and its website at each step

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/land-contamination-risk-management-lcrm/lcrm-before-you-start#sustainability>.

SuRF-Japan

Yasuhide Furukawa (YF) provided an update on behalf of SuRF-Japan but was unable to attend in person. YF confirmed that SuRF-Japan are planning a workshop in March 2021. The topics to be discussed will be 'Sustainable Remediation with/after COVID 19 '.

SuRF France (in preparation)

PJ confirmed he is assisting Olivier Maurer in establishing a SuRF France. They plan to bring together a small group of individuals from consultants, problem holders and researchers to discuss what a sustainable remediation forum should look like in France. Their first meeting is 20th November 2020. PJ confirmed that Nicola Harries (NH) will be providing a short introduction on ISRA and how different SuRFs have been established. The reason that they are looking to set up a SuRF France now is because it is felt that there is a lack of practice of sustainability when addressing contaminated land. Also there is changes to

	<p>environmental legislation coming through from Europe so it is thought that it will be a good time to drive awareness of sustainable practices.</p> <p>SuRFs offered to support SuRF France, anyway they can.</p> <p>SuRF-Italy Claudio Albano (CA) was unable to attend the call and confirmed that there is no updates by SuRF-Italy to share.</p> <p>NICOLA Hayley Thomas was unable to attend but sent the following update.</p> <p>NICOLA is still continuing with their planning for the SustRem 2021 conference. They plan to announce the call for abstracts and registrations in the New Year. They are looking to try and COVID proof the event with the likelihood that it will be a hybrid approach ie face conference (in the hope that local people will be able to attend in person) but also streaming online so that people can also opt for a virtual option.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Forthcoming events: Battelle 2021 Combined Chlorinated and Bioremediation Conference 27 June - 1 July, 2021 Portland Oregon NORDROCS 2021, Norway, September 2021 SustRem 2021 – South Africa, October 2021 AquaConsoil 2021 (Virtual) & 2022 Netherlands Sustainable Remediation – Taiwan (further details to be provided) SustRem 2022 -SuRF indicated their interest in hosting SustRem 2023 – ALGA indicated their interest in hosting</p> <p>FB wanted to acknowledge have impressed he was on the approach that EKOS had taken at their last conference by focusing on one site. He felt that this format was hugely successful and would encourage future SustRem conferences to build on this format. It involved various stakeholders and clearly laid out the challenges and solutions that were being implemented.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Opportunities to drive consistency and collaborate between SuRF initiatives PB led the discussion and opened for other SuRFs thoughts to the opportunities to collaborate on joint projects. The ideas discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PODCASTS: To build on what NICOLE Latin America are doing to help promote the ideas and concepts of sustainable remediation. It was felt doing this across all the SuRFs could be a very powerful dissemination tool. JC is willing to help SuRFs with how to develop podcasts and videos. AT offered to develop some ideas for podcasts. <p>ACTION: AT & JC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library: To develop a one stop library that links to all the different SuRF documents in one place and to develop a library of case studies. <p>ACTION: NH & RT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EKOS Seminario Case Study: To support EKOS in their work. Can the expertise within ISRA support the work that they are carrying out in the region of Jurubatuba as a way to collaborate and support between SuRFs? <p>ACTION FB to discuss with JC</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Special Issue for GSR case studies PB shared that the Chinese Ministry of Ecology are currently supporting his time as a private consultant to prepare sustainable remediation case studies. PB has discussed with Remediation Journal whether there would be an opportunity to</p>

	<p>prepare a Special Publication of Sustainable Remediation case studies to widen the call for case studies. The Remediation Journal are happy with this idea but there would need to be volunteers to review submissions. PB asked if there was interest with SuRFs?</p> <p>ACTION: RT agreed to discuss with SURF Board to see if there are any volunteers to act as peer reviewers of papers</p>
6.	<p>Suggestions for setting a scope and future agenda for ISRA and SURFs in general</p> <p>It was agreed that there needs to be a separate web meeting to discuss future work themes of ISRA and to build on the climate change ideas/themes previously circulatede adapted. A separate meeting is required to develop these themes further.</p> <p>ACTION: NH to set up a meeting for January 2021.</p>
7.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>PB wanted to flag to SURFs that the European Union has recently published a funding call for projects under the theme “Green Deal” that may be of interest as sustainable remediation fits within:</p> <p>EU Green Deal Call</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toxic Free Environment https://ec.europa.eu/growth/content/green-deal-commission-adopts-new-chemicals-strategy-towards-toxic-free-environment-0_en • Nature Based Systems https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/research-area/environment/nature-based-solutions_en <p>Often these calls encourage collaboration.</p>
6.	<p>Next meeting</p> <p>Next teleconference will be arranged in the Spring 2021. NH will contact ANZ, Japan or Taiwan to chair the next call.</p> <p>ACTION: NH to arrange the next meeting.</p>