

November 2021 SURF Break Newsletter

New, Open-Source Sustainable Remediation Assessment Tool



To remediation practitioners, the availability of open-source sustainable remediation assessment tools may seem limited. SURF's recent Technical Initiative Team focused on creating short training videos for two of the most prominent open-source tools: SiteWise™ and SEFA (Spreadsheets for Environmental Footprint Analysis). (Click here to access.) But the universe of free tools to conduct these assessments may be expanding. Ramboll's SURE tool allows users to assess the sustainability of a project by selecting relevant indicators from pre-populated alternatives and evaluate the impacts. Users can share assessment results electronically with stakeholders, who can review, revise, and collaborate with the practitioner to increase resiliency or other desired elements. Finally, users document the process by generating a report that highlights results, potential areas for improvement, and items that contribute to fulfilling United Nations sustainable development goals. To learn more and get started with the tool, click here. (Creating a user account is required for access.)

Dive In! ASTM Publishes Guide for Remedial Action Resiliency to Climate Impacts



The one-year delay and recent end of the COP 26 United Nations Climate Change Conference has reignited calls for urgent climate change action. Among the various resources available for remediation professionals on the subject is ASTM's Standard Guide for Remedial Action Resiliency to Climate Impacts. Shout out to all the SURFers who worked with ASTM International and others to develop the consensus-based standard, which outlines techniques for evaluating and mitigating the impacts of climate change and extreme weather on remediation systems at all stages of the site cleanup process. The standard is available online for purchase (or at a discounted rate for ASTM members) here.

Drilling Down to the Business of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals

Jacobs

In 2015, the large scale and ambitiousness of the United Nations' (UN's)

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) prompted the UN to engage the private sector for the first time. Since then, more and more companies have been integrating the goals into their corporate sustainability strategy and SURF sponsor Jacobs is no exception. Jacobs' newest sustainability strategy, PlanBeyond 2.0, focuses on six sustainable business objectives, each aligned with an SDG. Each objective is detailed further with a target goal, approach, and next steps. For example, Objective 2 is to "deliver solutions for the global" water and sanitation crisis," which aligns with SDG 6, Clean Water and Sanitation. The target is to "expand water equity in water-stressed regions" through existing and new partnerships by 2025." What does that look like in practice? To date, Jacobs is providing its expertise to the California WaterFix program, which is designed to bolster the reliability of the state's water supplies while protecting and enhancing the San Francisco Bay-Delta estuary. The company is also working with Melbourne Water to integrate the SDGs into their business processes. This work reflects one of the core beliefs of PlanBeyond 2.0 -the need to reframe sustainability. Instead of focusing on minimizing negative impacts, Jacobs' goal is to maximize positive outcomes to achieve a sustainable future for all.

Upcoming Events

East Coast Battelle Sediments Conference

January 24-27, 2022 Nashville, TN For more info or to register, click <u>here</u>.

SURFers: Find information about SURF events via the Member Portal (click <u>here</u> and sign in). Can't access? Click <u>here</u> to e-mail Stacey Hellekson, SURF Secretary.













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