

## International SURF Groups and Partners

12<sup>th</sup> July 2018

14.00pm – 15.30pm London Time

Meeting No. 20

### Representatives:

- SuRF-Italy : Claudio Albano (chair)
- SuRF-UK : Paul Bardos & Hayley Thomas
- SuRF-Colombia : Alfonso Rodriguez
- SuRF-Japan : Yasuhide Furukawa
- SuRF-Taiwan: Bing Nan Wang
- Secretariat : Nicola Harries CL:AIRE

### Apologies received:

- SURF-USA : Barbara Maco and Matthew Ambrush
- SuRF-ANZ : Tony Scott
- SuRF-Canada : Stella Karnis and François Beaudoin
- NICOLE: Hans Slenders
- SuRF NL: Laurent Bakker and Tessa Verschoor
- SuRF Brazil : James Henderson

1.	<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <p>Claudio Albano welcomed everybody. NH let everybody know that unfortunately SuRF China has had to withdraw its membership of SuRF international/ISRA and its profile on these web pages due to external diplomatic issues outside of their control.</p>
2.	<p><b>Recent progress updates</b></p> <p>All SuRFs that were present provided a brief update.</p> <p><b>SuRF-Taiwan</b></p> <p>Bing Nan Wang (BNW) confirmed that the chair of SuRF Taiwan (Professor Hsue) travelled to Japan in May to meet with SuRF Japan representatives and Professor Paul Bardos from SuRF-UK. This is to move forward potential co-operation between SuRFs in the Asia region. BNW confirmed that Professor Hsue is also organising a special issue of Green and Sustainable Remediation in an open access journal "Sustainability" and he would like to encourage SuRFs to share experiences of Sustainable Remediation and Green and Sustainable Remediation in this journal. The deadline for papers is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019. Further information is available:</p> <p><a href="http://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/special_issues/contaminated_site">http://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/special_issues/contaminated_site</a></p> <p><b>SuRF-Colombia</b></p> <p>Alfonso Rodriguez (AR) confirmed that they are currently waiting for new environmental laws and regulations that should be published soon as the country has a new government and a recently elected president. These regulations they hope will reference a sustainable remediation framework.</p>

### SuRF-ANZ

Tony Scott was unable to attend in person but sent the following update on behalf of SuRF ANZ.

SuRF ANZ has been busy over the last few months principally around organisation of two major events:

1. 3hr Short Course titled “Sustainable Remediation” – What does this involve and how can we achieve this?”
  - Held in Sydney, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Newcastle over 3 weeks from end of May to Mid-June.
  - The Short Course was primarily focused on promoting the publication of ISO18504:2017 Sustainable Remediation but within a broader context of sustainability drivers that we are seeing as having a potential to push sustainable remediation – particularly on the many large infrastructure projects that are underway or in planning stages in Australia.
  - The Short Course was very successful with nearly 200 attendees across the country and plans to present the Short Course again in locations where the event was sold out.
  - One of the really good signs was the support for sustainable remediation from the environmental regulators (it does form a key element of most legislation related to contaminated land in Australia) which while not endorsing the ISO (they don’t endorse standards) they recognised it as an appropriate tool for assessing sustainable remediation.
  - We expect to run the Short Course in New Zealand later in 2018 or early 2019.
  - TS shared a summary of the running sheet for the short course.
2. Preparation for hosting a 1hr Session at EcoForum 2018 (the Premier Contaminated Land Conference in ANZ) to be held in early October 2018
  - The Session titled “**Sustainable Remediation – offering a competitive advantage**” is part of a theme Room for Change which is part of a stream where participation is a key and topics where change is considered necessary.
  - The session will be a one-hour facilitated session with panel of experts opening with presentations
  - 5 short (5 minute) presentations by members of an Expert Panel focusing on the approach adopted by the Infrastructure Sustainability Council of Australia (ISCA). This approach provides a framework and a competitive advantage through identifying and applying innovative approaches – that can extend to contaminated land.
  - Facilitator led discussion with expert panel and audience including exploring:
    - Factors that ISCA consider and the sorts of examples that are being or could be adopted to rank highly under the system – e.g. encouraging soil reuse; encouraging less energy and less resource intensive methods of dealing with contamination.
    - How what is applied for major infrastructure can apply to relatively small sites.
    - Discussing Business as Usual for managing contaminated land and looking beyond Business as Usual.
    - Additional examples to better illustrate the concepts
    - Hypothetical sites (eg asbestos, B(a)P)) to consider the sorts of options that might be considered and how they would rank and the issues involved in decision making.
    - Other points.
  - The primary purpose to make the audience aware of how Sustainable Development has become a mandatory requirement for major development projects, and how this extends to contaminated sites.
  - The session will be designed to explore just what sustainable remediation can involve for contaminated sites and how it can offer a competitive advantage to those offering services. This will draw on the experiences and approach adopted in major infrastructure projects, which is now mandated

by many Government departments responsible for infrastructure development.

#### **SuRF-UK**

Hayley Thomas (HT) and Paul Bardos (PB) explained that SuRF-UK steering continue to work on a number of different workstreams including writing articles and papers for industry magazines and journals to raise the profile of SuRF-UK. PB has recently prepared a journal paper for special issue of Nature Sustainability which has recently been published <http://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/10/6/1781/htm> It is titled "The development and use of sustainability criteria in SuRF-UK's Sustainable Remediation Framework" and is open access. In addition an abstract for 33rd Annual International Conference on Soils, Sediments, Water, and Energy in San Diego has been accepted.

In addition, SuRF-UK are now moving forward with the prepare of an animation on sustainable remediation to try and engage more in the development sector who may work on the periphery of the land contamination arena. This hopefully will spread the word more about sustainable remediation and try and bring the younger professionals new to the industry up to speed. It is hoped that this will be available for SustRem 2018.

#### **SuRF-Italy**

Claudio Albano (CA) confirmed that SuRF Italy is very quiet at present. He is hoping to re-energise the group at the upcoming RemTech conference in Ferrara, Italy where sustainable remediation is an agenda item. SuRF-Italy continue to work on their national guidelines on implementation of Sustainable Remediation. CA confirmed that he has also been supporting the development of SustRem 2018 programme and is involved in the NICOLE Land Stewardship working group which recently published its information booklet in Frankfurt in June and can be downloaded here: [http://www.nicole.org/uploadedfiles/NICOLE\\_CF\\_Landstewardship\\_A5\\_Booklet\\_digital.pdf](http://www.nicole.org/uploadedfiles/NICOLE_CF_Landstewardship_A5_Booklet_digital.pdf)

There are a number of key synergies with sustainable remediation.

#### **SuRF-Japan**

Yasuhide Furukawa (YF) confirmed that representatives from SuRF Taiwan and SuRF Japan met in May where SuRF Japan hosted a workshop that 85 delegates attended to listen to a number of presentations including one from Professor Paul Bardos of SuRF-UK. At the meeting SuRF Japan circulated an outline draft white paper on GSR. It is hoped that this will be finalised in the Autumn/Winter 2018 following feedback.

#### **SuRF-NL**

Tessa Verschoor (TV) provided an update of SuRF-NL activities.

On the 12th of July SuRF-NL gave a presentation during a meeting about after care locations (Amsterdam - landfill Diemerzeedijk). SuRF-NLs presentation was about sustainable remediation based on the 'ISO-18504 Sustainable remediation and the published guidance of SuRF-NL (Dutch only). We gave the audience (mainly problem owners) an insight into the basic principles and methods of this protocol. We also explained it in a more practical way by using the principles and methods for a landfill site in Amsterdam. The goal of the presentation of SuRF-NL was to make more people familiar with the principles and methods and possibilities for assessing the current situation and possibilities of aftercare locations.

#### **NICOLE**

Hans Slenders (HS) provided an update on behalf of NICOLE. There are no recent activities in the field of Sustainable Remediation. The role of Ambassador for Sustainable Remediation remains intact. The SR Ambassador communicates, coordinates or represents NICOLE in the field of SR.

As a successor of SR, NICOLE has started the working group on Land Stewardship at industrial sites. The working group has produced its booklet in

	<p>June and presented this at the NICOLE workshop in Frankfurt. Claudio Albano is also a member of the working group and introduced the booklet (see above). It is important to mention, is that the booklet is a cooperation with the Common Forum (European Policy makers on soil) and that there are many elements of Sustainable Remediation in it: Stakeholder Involvement, options appraisal, Sustainability indicators etc. The booklet does not have the label of a Joint Position Statement (JPS), but can be regarded as a mutual exploration of the concept of Land Stewardship. Land Management Policies differ across Europe (and the globe), therefore it may be difficult to come to a JPS, but during the next year this possibility will be explored.</p> <p><b>SuRF-Canada</b></p> <p>No current update available at present.</p> <p><b>SuRF-Brasil</b></p> <p>Work is continuing to support the delivery of SustRem 2018.</p> <p><b>SURF</b> Matthew Ambrusch (MA) provided an update on behalf of SuRF.</p> <p>SURF is continuing work on a 10 year anniversary white paper on sustainable remediation, aimed at looking back at what has been accomplished thus far in sustainable remediation and more importantly looking into the future of sustainable remediation.</p> <p>Current SURF President and Vice President were invited by Professor Deyi Hou to attend and speak at the 1<sup>st</sup> Tsinghua Forum on Environmental Remediation Beijing, China in August 2018. Due to schedule conflicts neither are able to attend; however, the former SURF President will be attending and presenting on behalf of SURF.</p> <p>Two SURF Board members visited the Alabama Department of Environmental Management in June 2018 and presented about SURF and its recent work in climate resiliency. This was done as part of an effort to get more regulatory involvement/exposure for SURF. In a similar effort, SURF has also recently begun to collaborate with ITRC to develop a proposal for a climate resiliency project team in 2019.</p> <p>Finally, SURF is continuing its partnership with AEHS and is in the final planning stages for the upcoming AEHS Conference in October 2018. SURF has three mini-sessions and AEHS's first ever panel discussion, focused on organizational drivers for sustainable remediation. Planning for the Spring 2019 AEHS Conference has begun, but SURF has not yet committed to partnering with AEHS again.</p>
<p><b>3.</b></p>	<p><b>UPCOMING Conferences &amp; Workshops</b></p> <p>Remtech, Ferrara Italy September 2018</p> <p>EcoForum Conference, Sydney Australia October 2018</p> <p>34th Annual International Conference on Soils, Sediments, Water, and Energy in San Diego, USA October 2018.</p> <p>SustRem 2018 Sao Paulo, Brasil October 2018</p> <p>AquaConsoil 2019, Antwerp Belgium</p>

<p>4.</p>	<p><b>Actions to drive consistency between SuRF initiatives</b></p> <p><b>ISO</b> It is understood that no progress has been made regarding moving the ISO standard and the development of daughter products.</p> <p><b>AquaConsoil 2019</b> It was felt that with the recent announcement of AquaConsoil 2019 dates, this would be a good opportunity to showcase ISRA through a Special Session on sustainable remediation. This would give a great platform to show how sustainable remediation thinking has matured across the world and build on previous Special Sessions.</p> <p><b>ACTION: NH to make enquiries with AquaConsoil organisers.</b></p> <p><b>Future of SuRF International /ISRA</b> CA opened the discussion on where ISRA members thought the future lays with this forum, are there better ways of engaging? How can ISRA become more of a thought leader to influence the uptake of sustainable remediation on a more international/global arena? Where can they influence?</p> <p>CA asked that all members ask their respective members in their countries</p> <p>PB felt that ISRA has a strong role to provide a web information platform that became the “go to place” for information. This would ensure there was a consistent message. This would allow information on risk based land management to be shared more widely, global case studies to be shared.</p> <p>Could ISRA create an award for the best project?</p> <p>How can ISRA support the younger SuRFs, what support is needed?</p> <p>CA asked all SuRFs to think about the future of ISRA. What is needed to generate more interest.</p> <p><b>ACTION: All to discuss ISRA with their SuRFs and how can it develop.</b></p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b> There was no further business.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p><b>Next meeting</b> It was thought that many SuRFs will have representatives attending SustRem 2018 so perhaps the next meeting can be face to face at SustRem. NH will enquire if this is a possibility.</p> <p><b>ACTION: NH to arrange the next meeting.</b></p>