

# International SURF Groups and Partners

11<sup>th</sup> July 2013

1pm British Summer Time

**FINAL**

## Representatives:

- Claudio Albano - SuRF-Italy : Chair
- Jonathan Smith - SuRF-UK
- Karin Holland – SURF-USA
- Hao-Chun Hung – SuRF-Taiwan
- Nicola Harries - CL:AIRE Secretariat

## Apologies received:

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

## AGENDA

	Topic/Desired Outcome
1	<b>Welcome</b>
2	<b>Recent progress updates</b>
3	<b>Upcoming conferencing opportunities</b>
4	<b>Actions to drive consistency between SuRF initiatives</b>
5	<b>Special topic of interest:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ How National SuRF Groups did or could succeed in Public Stakeholder engagement and support to shared decision making</li></ul>
6	<b>Next telecon meeting options.</b>

ITEM		ACTION
1.	<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <p>Claudio Albano (CA) welcomed everyone and attendees confirmed they were happy with the agenda. CA provided a short introduction on the purpose of the SURF chairs meeting on a quarterly basis to Hao-Chun Hung of Taiwan as it was his first time he had joined the call.</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. Nicola Harries (NH) presented SURF-ANZ update on behalf of Garry Smith (GS).</p> <p><b><u>SURF-US</u></b></p> <p>Karin Holland (KH) explained that the next SURF 23 meeting is July 23-25th where they will be focussing on the social aspects of sustainability and have invited speakers who can share their expertise and experiences in this area. SURF continues to work in their work groups focussing on sustainable use of water in remediation and look to publish a paper on this at the end of the year. SURF also plans to have a companion brochure and factsheet to accompany this publication.</p> <p>KH confirmed that the international white paper is still currently being worked on.</p> <p><b><u>SURF-Taiwan</u></b></p> <p>Hao-Chun Hung (H-CH) explained that SURF-Taiwan was established in November 2012 after the international conference on soil and groundwater remediation where SuRF US &amp; UK were featured. SURF-Taiwan is a working group within Taiwan Association of Soil and Groundwater Environmental Protection (TASGEP) with a committee meeting every 3 months. The Minister Shu-Hung Shen of the Environmental Protection Administration of Taiwan has recently been briefed on green and sustainable remediation concepts and is supportive of the setting up of SURF-Taiwan. H-CH confirmed that the membership of TASGEP is varied from regulators, academics and practitioners however there are currently few regulators. SURF-Taiwan is looking to closely work with government departments particularly the Environmental Protection Administration (EPA) to help develop guidance for the public and private sectors to use.</p> <p>H-CH confirmed that they have submitted text to the SURF International White Paper.</p> <p>H-CH also explained that the president of SuRF-Taiwan gave a presentation at Battelle on the work of SuRF-Taiwan and a delegation of government officials, professors, and environmental engineers/scientists will be attending CleanUp – Melbourne, Australia.</p> <p><b><u>SuRF-UK</u></b></p> <p>Jonathan Smith (JS) explained 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 along with the</p>	

publication of a series of case studies. SuRF-UK is looking to launch this work at the end of September at a CL:AIRE conference on sustainable land management.

JS also wanted to make SURF chairs aware that CL:AIRE has launched an e-learning module on Sustainable Remediation which consists of 4 hours of learning and provides an introduction to the concepts of sustainable remediation and is generic in approach so is applicable to all regulatory regimes.

JS confirmed that he will attending CleanUp 2013 in Melbourne, Australia.

### **SuRF-ANZ**

SuRF ANZ's members now have access to a range of sustainable remediation practice materials and tools, and contacts with ANZ and international SuRF organisations via the SuRF ANZ website [www.surfanz.com.au](http://www.surfanz.com.au). The website, conferencing, and contacts until now have been the principal avenues for discussing practice and practitioner needs in sustainable remediation. SuRF ANZ is now extending its offerings to include more direct interactive discussions on-line, plus a very significant presence at the national Cleanup 2013 conference in Melbourne.

Recent activities include:

- Posting on the SuRF ANZ website two finalised Working Groups **discussion papers** on the following aspects of SR:
  1. **An ANZ Sustainable Remediation Framework** (which is under finalisation);
  2. **Planning aspects of Sustainable Remediation.**

The Secretariat received comments from a number of SuRF ANZ members on these draft reports prior to finalisation and has posted them as useful resources and for further discussion at [www.surfanz.com.au](http://www.surfanz.com.au).

- SuRF ANZ Forum Committee members provided invited-contributions to the emerging **draft standard for sustainable remediation** (an ISO SR) with proposed title "Soil quality – Guidance on sustainable remediation" convened by a new ISO working group on "Soil and site assessment – Risk based remediation measures".

### **SuRF-ITALY**

Claudio Albano (CA) explained that SuRF-Italy is relatively new and formerly established in early 2013. SuRF-Italy membership consists primarily of consultants, contractors and land owners and they are now beginning more engagement with regional public authorities.

SuRF-Italy presented a poster at the recent NICOLE meeting in June where they presented the development of a sustainable remediation white paper which will outline the current situation in Italy and their approach. This will include input from both public and private sector organisations.

	<p>SuRF-Italy are planning a full day workshop at Remtech at Ferrara 2013 with input from SuRF-NL, EURODEMO + and SuRF-Canada. They are also hoping to host the Sustainable Remediation 2014 conference in Ferrara alongside Remtech following on from Vienna 2012. Discussions are still ongoing on this.</p> <p><b><u>NICOLE</u></b></p> <p>Although the lead contact with NICOLE was unable to join the call, it was noted that the Common Forum and NICOLE had recently issued a joint position statement on sustainable remediation. This is a high level policy statement that has been developed to explain how the two groups agree the importance of sustainable remediation.</p> <p><b>All other SURF Networks and associates were not represented on the call therefore could not provide an update.</b></p>	
<p>3.</p>	<p><b>Upcoming conferencing opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ CleanUp 2013 - 21st September 2013</li> <li>■ RemTech – 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> September 2013</li> <li>■ American Geophysical Union (AGU) – 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> December 2013</li> <li>■ Battelle, Monterey – 19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> May 2014 abstracts due 15<sup>th</sup> September 2013 <a href="http://www.battelle.org/docs/chlorinated-conference/chlorinated_call_for_abstracts.pdf?sfvrsn=0">http://www.battelle.org/docs/chlorinated-conference/chlorinated_call_for_abstracts.pdf?sfvrsn=0</a></li> <li>■ SusRem 2014? – Ferrara? As a follow on from SusRem – Vienna 2012</li> <li>■ CleanUp 2014 – Autumn 2014</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>JS confirmed that he only recently became aware of the AGU meeting due to a delegate who is presenting their research findings at the conference asked him to complete a survey.</p> <p>CA also made people aware of NICOLE's technology award which is themed along sustainable remediation. Closing date is September 1<sup>st</sup>. Link to the award: <a href="http://www.nicole.org/uploadedfiles/TA2013-brochure-submission.pdf">http://www.nicole.org/uploadedfiles/TA2013-brochure-submission.pdf</a></p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p><b>Actions to Drive Consistency between SURF Initiatives</b></p> <p><b>Update on ISO on Sustainable Remediation</b></p> <p>KH reported that she had recently seen Paul Nathanail (PN) and he confirmed all sections of the proposed ISO document were in place and he is in the process of preparing a first draft for circulation and comment amongst authors. JS is aware that the next meeting of ISO is at the end of September 2013 in Japan after CleanUp conference, Melbourne.</p> <p>KH offered to follow up with PN for an update. It was believed that there was an intention to circulate a draft in August, however it is</p>	<p>KH</p>

	<p>thought that the final draft will be sent to ISO member organisations/national standards bodies for formal vote after the September 2013 meeting.</p> <p>People were unsure whether PN intended to circulate the agreed draft widely before submitting to ISO for an informal review as there was uncertainty of current timelines.</p>	
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>Special topic of interest:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ How National SURF Groups did or could succeed in Public Stakeholder engagement and support to shared decision making</li> </ul> <p>It was agreed that where possible information on different projects that SURF groups develop should be shared with each other to help advance others thinking.</p> <p>KH explained about some work that SURF are undertaking by putting together a series of presentations for local and federal regulators to help explain the concepts of sustainable remediation which they hope will also help with wider stakeholder engagement. The work will engage with early adopting regulators that have embraced the concept of sustainable remediation to help bring on board other regulators not yet bought into the concept.. SURF is now making great progress in its engagement with regulators but it has been a slow process.</p> <p>SuRF-UK and SuRF-Taiwan already have regulatory buy-in to the concept of sustainable remediation.</p> <p>SuRF-UK is fortunate due to the regulatory regime in the UK has sustainable principles embedded into its legislation and guidance documents, and SURF-UK has engaged with the regulators from the outset when developing its framework document and subsequent supporting documents. SuRF-UK has ensured equal ownership when preparing its documents which has helped when rolling out to the wider community.</p> <p>Within Taiwan it is the EPA that has been promoting the concept of Green and Sustainable Remediation (GSR). The EPA is planning a number of public meetings on GSR concepts. They feel that it is important to get industry, national and local regulators and practitioners all together and provide the correct information on GSR which SuRF-Taiwan will assist with. SuRF-Taiwan is currently developing a website and it plans to upload information when available to ensure a consistent message is delivered.</p> <p>SuRF-Taiwan confirmed that they have looked at SuRF-UK framework and SuRF-ANZ framework but will be developing their own framework specific for Taiwan.</p>	
<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>Next telecon meeting</b></p> <p>It was agreed that the next teleconference should be held early October 2013 and chaired by Australia/Asia. NH to contact the different representatives to ask for a volunteer.</p>	<p>NH</p>

7.	<b>AOB</b>  JS wishes to raise at the next meeting how to continue the financial support of CL:AIRE as SuRF International secretariat. The meeting was brought to a close with thanks to those that were able to attend.	
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