

# International SURF Groups and Partners

25<sup>th</sup> February 2014

8am Pacific Standard Time (4pm GMT)

## FINAL

### Representatives:

- SuRF-Canada :Stella Karnis - Chair
- SuRF-ANZ : Garry Smith
- SuRF-Italy : Claudio Albano
- SURF-USA : Nick Garson
- SuRF-UK : Jonathan Smith
- SuRF-NL : Hans Slenders
- NICOLE : Lucy Wiltshire
- Representing Taiwan : Bing-Nan Wang
- Secretariat : Nicola Harries CL:AIRE

### Apologies received:

Sanders Eskes - SuRF-Brazil  
Sarah Mackay - NICOLE  
Laurent Bakker – SuRF-NL  
Mengfang Chen – Representing China  
Ryuzo Tazawa – Representing Japan

### AGENDA

#### Topic/Desired Outcome

- 1 **Welcome**
- 2 **Recent progress updates**
- 3 **Upcoming conferencing opportunities**
- 4 **Actions to drive consistency between SuRF initiatives**
- 5 **Special topic of interest:**
  - Opportunities to collaborate internationally – mapping out joint priority areas.
- 6 **Any Other Business**
- 7 **Next telecom**

ITEM		ACTION
1.	<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <p>Stella Karnis (SK) welcomed everyone and attendees confirmed they were happy with the agenda. SK provided a short introduction on the purpose of the SURF meetings being for cross country connections and for the promotion of international collaboration on sustainable remediation.</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.</p> <p><b><u>SuRF-NL</u></b></p> <p>Hans Slenders (HS) provided an update on SuRF-NL. He explained that SuRF-NL had been relatively quiet recently however they have recently managed to secure a small amount of funding to start working on a Dutch Position paper on Sustainable Remediation. This will initially be published in Dutch and they envisage it will be a short booklet of approximately 30 pages outlining their thoughts on what they consider is sustainable remediation.</p> <p><b><u>SURF-USA</u></b></p> <p>Nick Garson (NG) provided an update of activities for SuRF – USA. He confirmed that SuRF25 was hosted in Los Angeles two weeks previously building on public private partnerships. SuRF – USA are looking to reach out to other organisations that they can develop partnerships with that are outside of the standard planning/redevelopment sectors such as Green Building Council but have mutual objectives.</p> <p>SuRF-USA acknowledged that they had been extremely ambitious last year but had not achieved as much as they had hoped, so they have agreed to consolidate and focus on delivering on three key deliverables. This included:</p> <p><b><u>Case Studies Initiative</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SuRF is looking to develop a standardised template for gathering case studies. SuRF would also be looking to work with SuRF Canada and other SuRF groups on sharing case studies. Once complete, the case studies would be available as a member resource for best-practice sharing, including discussions with external functions (i.e. management, conferences, agencies, other professional organizations, etc).</li> </ul> <p>Jonathan Smith (JS) let NG know that SuRF-UK and SuRF-ANZ already have templates published so this could be a useful resource to use as a starting point.</p> <p><b><u>Societal Aspects Initiative</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This technical initiative will focus on preparing a White Paper that will present a variety of methods and case studies for evaluating the impact to society from remediation activities. The methods presented in the White Paper will consist of both quantitative and qualitative analyses. The White Paper will also explore the importance of</li> </ul>	

evaluating the impact of remediation as well as society's relationship to the environmental and economic aspects of sustainable remediation and will be presented at the upcoming Battelle conference.

**Sustainable Remediation Initiative (SRI)**

SuRF is working on outreach activities in partnership with regulatory agencies and professional institutions to try and get engagement with their members who may not normally actively engage with sustainability concepts.

NG explained that the small steering group are looking at what further activities are required, and they need to look ahead of what needs to be achieved in the next 3-5 years.

JS asked if there was any progress with the International White Paper Initiative. NG explained that progress had been delayed but he will be seeking an update from the team preparing it and report back to the SuRFs. JS suggested that perhaps this is something that the SuRFs could collaborate together on to get finished as a number had already collaborated on it.

NG

**SuRF-UK**

Jonathan Smith (JS) explained that SuRF-UK is currently focussing resources on finishing Phase 3 work 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 Sustainability Management Practices aligned with the already published indicator sets. It is anticipated that these will be published at the beginning of March on the updated SuRF-UK web pages of the CL:AIRE website.

All SuRFs will be notified on its release. SuRF-UK is also still actively seeking other case studies to publish.

In addition, Shell Global Solutions are carrying out a review of UK and EU Directives/legislation that apply to soil and groundwater and refer to sustainability principles. This work is currently ongoing and is due to finish in May 2014. On completion JS will review and if he thinks it could be useful to industry he will share as an easy reference document through SuRF-UK and NICOLE. JS will provide an update at the next meeting.

**SURF-Taiwan**

Bin Nan Wang (BNW) confirmed that SuRF-Taiwan continues to be supported by the Taiwanese Environmental Protection Agency. SuRF-Taiwan is currently developing a website and is also working on developing a sustainability tool which they are carrying out sensitivity testing on by demonstrating on three case study sites. They are looking at carbon footprint along with economic and social impacts. It is hoped that the demonstration case studies will be finished soon.

**SuRF-ANZ**

Garry Smith (GS) explained that after the success of Clean Up 2013, they generated interest from 300 potential members to be part of SuRF-ANZ. In the new year they started charging members and 150 people have signed up paying 20 AU \$. Currently their membership is predominantly practitioners who are particularly interested in work that is being undertaken internationally so these teleconferences are extremely useful

to share with their members.

With the establishment of the SuRF-ANZ website, they are hoping to grow their membership and engage with their members directly. They have a 2 week internet platform planned working with a number of Universities to discuss case studies and allow members to ask questions in relation to sustainable remediation. SuRF-ANZ are also planning a small road show and will be visiting different parts of Australia and New Zealand to actively engage with their members and hear, listen and provide further support.

SuRF-ANZ is actively developing a methods paper on how to apply sustainability principles to a project. They have heavily borrowed from other SuRFs and will be happy to share once completed. This methods paper is on soil remediation and will be followed by groundwater remediation.

SuRF-ANZ has strongly supported the attendance at Battelle and SustRem 2014 and they will be active at the EcoForum 2014 where they hope to hold a conference and workshop alongside the main event.

#### **NICOLE**

Lucy Wiltshire (LW) confirmed that NICOLE is finalising a number of case studies for publication, they are due out imminently. Other activities involve tracking the ISO initiative and promoting communication across the user communities about sustainable remediation. LW confirmed that NICOLE's next workshop will be a joint one with the Common Forum in Berlin on May 15 & 16<sup>th</sup> titled: "A European policy framework on contaminated land: Enabling integrated land management and promoting sustainability". The Sustainable Remediation working group will also be meeting and there is still a lot of enthusiasm to continue to be active as a group and continue to publish case studies.

#### **SuRF-ITALY**

Claudio Albano (CA) explained that SuRF-Italy is continuing the momentum to gain new members and they are looking at attracting new industry members. Public Authorities are particularly reluctant to join at the moment due to the economic climate. SuRF-Italy continues to work on the SuRF-Italy White Paper which they hope to finish soon. It will contain at least 10 case studies. SuRF-Italy is also hosting SustRem 2014 in Ferrara, Italy with the call for abstracts out at the moment. The technical and organising committees are in place. As part of the SustRem conference promotion there will be a series of webinars being hosted by USEPA CLU-IN. The first is to be hosted on 15<sup>th</sup> April. The agenda will be finalised shortly.

CA also explained that at the end of 2013/early 2014 there has been few national level public conferences organized by environmental NGOs where Sustainable Remediation topics were presented, including SuRF Italy initiative and objectives. It was well received and encouraging.

#### **SuRF-Canada**

Stella Karnis (SK) explained that SuRF-Canada continue to work on developing a "Sustainable Remediation in Canada" publication which is currently going through peer review. SuRF-Canada is still actively encouraging members to join their organisation and they are planning to work with SuRF-USA and collaborate on case studies. They are also

	<p>planning webinars so that they can have much more active discussions with their members on sustainable remediation. SK confirmed that they have also had requests from a number of provinces to talk about SuRF-Canada's work which she found very encouraging</p> <p><b><u>JAPAN – Provided by email to Nicola Harries</u></b></p> <p>Ryuzo Tazawa explained that a Sustainable Remediation Forum (SuRF-Japan) isn't founded yet, but, consultants, contractors carrying out the investigation and countermeasures and regulatory activities are very interested in Sustainable Remediation and its concepts. Recently, a Working Group has started to study Sustainable Remediation &amp; Green and Sustainable Remediation, in GEPC (Geo Environmental Protection Center). With time it is hoped it will form a SuRF Japan.</p> <p><b>All other SURF Networks/representative bodies were not 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>■ Battelle, USA 19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> May 2014</li> <li>■ Insitu Remediation, UK 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> September 2014</li> <li>■ SustRem 2014, Italy – 17-19<sup>th</sup> September 2014</li> <li>■ Remediation of Contaminated Sites – NORDROCS, Sweden 15-18<sup>th</sup> September 2014</li> <li>■ HOMBRE TIMBRE GREENLAND CABERNET conference, Germany – 13 – 17th October 2014</li> <li>■ Ecoforum, Australia 29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> October 2014 –</li> <li>■ Soil and Groundwater Remediation, EPA Taiwan – 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> November 2014</li> <li>■ AquaConsoil, Denmark – June 2015</li> </ul> <p>Nick Garson (NG) explained that he was organising a Sustainable Remediation – International Perspectives workshop and panel session at Battelle. A number of the SuRF groups will be speaking and sharing their work. NG confirmed he would be setting up a conference call to discuss the format.</p> <p>Nicola Harries (NH) also explained that Paul Bardos would be giving a platform presentation at Battelle on the different International SuRF initiatives and has asked for updates from the different SuRF groups. NH to circulate Paul Bardos's request and agreed to put NG and Paul Bardos in touch with each other.</p>	<p>NG</p> <p>NH</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>JS confirmed that he had a steering group meeting that morning and the ISO standard on Sustainable Remediation was now in a first draft . Another conference call has been scheduled for a week's time. It is anticipated that a revised draft will be circulated for comment in mid April 2014. From the comments that JS saw there were no fundamental changes that were needed to be made, the language needed to be made consistent and clearer to prevent misinterpretation, however there is still a lot of work to do. JS was unable to confirm what the timetable was for</p>	

	<p>delivering the final document, he would ask and report back.</p> <p>GS explained that SuRF-ANZ to date had not been able to engage with their national standards agency so he asked if JS was able to introduce him to the UK representative who may be able to provide details of the Australian representative so he could get official engagement in the review process. JS agreed to put him in touch with Mike Smith.</p> <p><b>Training/Webinars/Seminars</b></p> <p>CA explained that there are going to be a series of webinars hosted by USEPA CLU-IN to promote SustRem 2014 in Ferrara, Italy. The agenda is currently being worked up.</p>	<p>JS</p> <p>JS</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><b>Special topic of interest:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Opportunities to collaborate internationally – mapping out joint priority areas.</li> </ul> <p>All agreed that they felt that the engagement of international participants from other countries at conferences is invaluable and if it is possible to share resources this is also very helpful. The next two opportunities where a number of SuRF chairs will be meeting will be Battelle in USA and SustRem 2014.</p> <p>JS agreed that it would be extremely useful to meet up and share status and plans going forward to prevent duplication and to see if there were opportunities to learn from each other and collaborate.</p> <p>GS explained from a SuRF-ANZ point of view it would be invaluable to understand how other SuRFs motivate people to use the sustainability tools that are developed.</p> <p>GS would also like to collaborate by discussing how the SuRFs can engage better with developing countries so that they can learn from the work that has been developed. Europe has high awareness of sustainable practices but other areas of the globe less so. How can this be improved?</p> <p>It was agreed that those at Battelle would meet up and discuss collaborative topics, this would be scoped up and shared with those unable to attend and then worked on jointly and followed up at a meeting at SustRem 2014.</p> <p>It was agreed that a separate workshop would not be organised at SustRem 2014 by the International SuRF groups or NICOLE but they would have an informal face to face meeting to follow on from Battelle</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p><b>Next telecon meeting</b></p> <p>It was agreed that NH will arrange the next teleconference which should be held in June 2014. It is to be chaired by Europe.</p>	<p>NH</p>