

International SURF Groups and Partners

24th May 2022

1.00 – 2.30pm London Time

Meeting No. 29

Representatives:

- SuRF-UK : Paul Bardos (chair) & Alan Thomas
- SuRF-ANZ : David Tully
- SuRF-Canada : François Beaudoin
- SURF-USA : Stacey Hellekson
- SuRF-Colombia : Alfonso Rodriguez
- SuRF-Italy: Claudio Albano
- SuRF France: Pierre Jolly
- NICOLA: Hayley Thomas
- NICOLE: Hans Slenders
- Secretariat : Nicola Harries CL:AIRE

Apologies received:

- SuRF-Japan : Yasuhide Furukawa/Tetsuo Yasutaka
- SuRF-Taiwan: Bing Nan Wang
- NICOLE Latin America/SuRF Brazil : Joyce Cruz Di Giovanni
- SURF-USA: Roy Thon

1.	Welcome Paul Bardos (PB) welcomed everybody. The agenda was agreed and Nicola Harries (NH) provided apologies.
2.	Recent progress updates All SuRFs that were present introduced themselves to Stacey Hellekson who was deputising for Roy Thun from SURF. All SuRFs 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 in Colombia they are still waiting for new environmental legislation from the government to be passed which includes the parameters of sustainable remediation. He confirmed that there continues to be a lot of evaluation and risk assessment work carried out in relation to recovering mercury from the environment that is as a result of illegal mining. They are also now looking at sites in Peru that has mercury contamination and looking at what regulations are in place in Peru that can be used to address the contamination. All this work is being supported by the USEPA. Sustainable remediation principles are being considered when addressing remediation across all these sites. SuRF-Italy Claudio Albano (CA) confirmed that currently there is no progress being undertaken in Italy with respect to resurrecting SuRF-Italy as they are still looking for a new hosting organisation. CA confirmed that he remains supporting NICOLE

on its activities in relation to sustainable land management through its Land Stewardship Working Group and at the upcoming RemTech Europe event.

NICOLE

CA and Hans Slenders (HS) confirmed that NICOLE had a very successful Spring workshop focusing on sustainable land management. There were a number of interesting presentations demonstrating how people's attitude to sustainability is maturing and climate change is now becoming embedded in projects as clients are starting to demand it is considered. Presentations included nature based solutions, climate resiliency, biodiversity, measuring CO₂ and circular economy. As the EU consolidates its approach in its soil strategy, this will provide further opportunities for NICOLE and the Land Stewardship Working Group. The Land Stewardship Working Group is currently looking to develop a real case study and setting up a living lab.

SuRF Netherlands

HS explained although SuRF NL is dormant, he is aware that there now seems to be a much greater interest in sustainability than there has been for some time.

SuRF-UK

Alan Thomas (AT) provided an update on behalf of SuRF-UK. He confirmed that much of their resources have been spent on preparing a SuRF-UK bulletin on resiliency. The purpose of the bulletin is to highlight all the good work that others have been carrying out and have carried out and highlighting how resiliency and sustainable remediation are interlinked. In addition SuRF-UK are planning to provide some introductory training at RemTech Europe on sustainable remediation.

SuRF-ANZ

David Tully (DT) provided an update on behalf of SuRF-ANZ. He confirmed that SuRF-ANZ are meeting every month and much of their discussions is about resiliency. Due to the difficult weather events they have been experiencing in Australia a number of remediation projects has been halted due to extreme flooding events.

DT also confirmed that on 29th April 2022 Australian Standards have adopted the ISO standard on Sustainable Remediation. It is exactly the same standard but now has the Australian Standard cover and is fully accepted within the Australian Standards system. It is hoped that now this standard has been accepted, it will see a step change to acceptance across Australia. SuRF-ANZ are embarking on a programme of spreading the word that the standard has been endorsed and the importance of sustainability is embraced in light of the effects of climate change.

DT also confirmed that there has been significant changes within ALGA their parent organisation. It is hoped a new CEO will be in place shortly. It is anticipated that SuRF-ANZ will host SustRem 2023 as part of ECOFORUM.

NICOLA

Hayley Thomas (HT) provided an update on behalf of NICOLA. She confirmed that SustRem 2021 had good participation and a strong agenda. On the back of that, NICOLA wants to spread the word about NICOLA and sustainable remediation much wider across Africa as it is very southern Africa focused at present. NICOLA is planning a conference in November 2022 with satellite companion events for others to join. A call for abstracts will be issued shortly. Sustainability and resilience will be key agenda items as Africa has been experiencing climatic events of flooding and droughts.

HT also confirmed that NICOLA's sustainable remediation working group has prepared a draft technical position statement about sustainable remediation which hopefully will be endorsed very shortly at the next NICOLA meeting.

NICOLA is continuing with its broader training programme across a number of different aspects including groundwater protection, asbestos, oxygenates, vapour intrusion.

SURF - USA

Stacey Hellekson (SH) provided a SURF update. She confirmed that SustRem 2022 in partnership with AEHS was a great success. SURF is organising an event at Battelle in person (currently on). SURF will be continuing its partnership with AEHS with a fall event. Also SURF are in talks with The Society of American Engineers (SAME) to sign an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote the concept of sustainable remediation and boost the profile of SURF across this sector.

SH confirmed that there has been a lot of outputs into Remediation Journal about sustainable remediation and SURF is planning new webinars to add to their already successful series.

SuRF-Canada

Francois Beaudoin (FB) provided an update on behalf of SuRF-Canada. He confirmed that yesterday he completed the filing for SuRF-Canada to be a incorporated not for profit organisation. He is hopeful now that this will re-energise SuRF-Canada. SuRF-Canada is working on a newsletter and to get their website back up and running. SuRF-Canada's first objective will be to get case studies accessible to members as people want to understand how to implement sustainable remediation. FB is also interested to understand where it is obligatory to consider sustainable remediation within publicly funded schemes. He is aware of Austria but is not aware of anywhere else.

SuRF-France

Pierre Jolly (PJ) provided an update on behalf of SuRF-France. He confirmed that 2022 has been a little quiet as a key member of SuRF-France has gone abroad so they are currently looking to replace him. PJ confirmed that SuRF-France is still looking into the different options of whether they become a incorporated not for profit organisation or work with a parent organisation. SuRF-France is also working on its different workstreams

- Evaluation of the selection of applicable techniques
- Biodiversity
- Demolition and Circular Economy
- Closure of mining sites

PJ explained that case studies are also an important aspect to demonstrate sustainable remediation so are keen to bring together all case study examples. It is hoped that ISRA may be able to create a section on its website to bring together all examples available.

SuRF-Taiwan

Bing Nan Wang (BN) provided an update on behalf of SuRF-Taiwan. He confirmed the following:

- The GSR conference on July 6, 2022 postponed again because of the COVID-19.

In the first season of this year, we are working on the coming GSR conference. However, the resurgence of COVID-19 in early April in Taiwan and the infections are higher and higher. After a lengthy debate, SuRF Taiwan decided to postpone this conference until the infections were reduced and returned to regular status. During the past few months, SuRF UK, SuRF US, SuRF ANZ, and NICOLA agreed to present at the conference. BN confirmed that SuRF-Taiwan is very grateful for the help in finalising and promoting this conference.

- The updated carbon emission tools will on-line on July.

	<p>SuRF-Taiwan's new GSR online calculator will be published. The tool can establish the baseline of the remediation project based on the timeframe of remedies operation. The user can record their carbon emission during O&M, compare the results to the baseline, and see if they reduce their carbon emissions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SuRF-Taiwan is stepping into GSR2. <p>Because of the water shortage in 2019 and 2020 and the disastrous rain in 2021, SuRF Taiwan and Taiwan EPA have began to think about the linkage of resilience and remediation. SuRF Taiwan is working on a green, sustainable and resilient remediation framework. It will consider the risk of extreme weather, how to reduce the negative consequences, and how the remediation project will recover from the issues. SuRF-Taiwan hopes that the a new framework will be available in the 1st quarter of next year.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Forth coming events:</p> <p>Battelle 2022 Chlorinated and Recalcitrant Compounds : 22-26 May, 2022, Palm Springs, California, USA Sustainable Remediation – hosted by SuRF-Taiwan (dates tbc) ECOFORUM : 8-10 August 2022 Newcastle Australia NORDROCS 2022 : 6 - 7 September 2022, Oslo, Norway Sustainably Minded World : New Zealand: ALGA: 23-24 September 2022 Clean Up: 11-15 September 2022, Adelaide Australia AEHS Fall Conference 17-20 October 2022, Amherst USA SustRem 2023 – ALGA</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Opportunities to drive consistency and collaborate between SuRF initiatives</p> <p>Case Studies It was felt that ISRA would benefit from a dedicated page of case studies that everyone could access with a level of categorisation added.</p> <p>NH and PB also flagged that CL:AIRE is working with Concawe to publish 10 case studies demonstrating sustainable remediation. It is hoped that these will be published by the end of 2022 as CL:AIRE bulletins, so will be able to be sign posted.</p> <p>ACTION: NH to look at different sources of case studies demonstrating sustainable remediation and adding some level of categorisation by topic on the ISRA website.</p> <p>Publications and Training It was felt that a list of useful resources on Green and Sustainable Resilient Remediation would be useful if held centrally.</p> <p>ACTION: NH to look at starting to provide a list of useful references that people can access.</p> <p>Charter It was agreed that the further changes that Roy Thun had made should be shared with people's prospect SuRF groups. It is hope that this would be agreed as final and uploaded on to the ISRA website. All to provide feedback by 15th July 2022. After this date the final version will be uploaded onto the ISRA page.</p> <p>ACTION: NH to amend the ISRA Global Charter and upload onto the ISRA website.</p> <p>ACTION: ALL to seek approval by 15th July 2022 from their respective SuRF groups.</p>

<p>5.</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Disclosure and Public Participation in Green and Sustainable Remediation <p>PB was keen to ask whether the SuRF community what disclosure for remediation projects is demanded by policy, planning and regulatory frameworks in their respective countered. PB will follow up with individual SuRFs for their thoughts and provide further context.</p> <p>ACTION: PB to provide further context to the question about disclosure and public participation in GSR and will follow up individually.</p> <p>PB wanted to make the SuRF community aware of the following recently published guidance/networks and potential collaborative funding programmes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The World Federation of Advertisers (“WFA“) – a global organisation that represents the common interests of advertisers and marketers – has issued landmark guidance on how brands can ensure that any environmental claims featured in their marketing communications are credible for both consumers and regulators (the “Guidance“). • International Sustainability Standards Board Begins Public Consultation on Draft Proposed Standards on General Sustainability-Related Financial and Climate-Related Disclosures: https://www.ifrs.org/projects/work-plan/climate-related-disclosures/exposure-draft-and-comment-letters/ and https://www.ifrs.org/projects/work-plan/general-sustainability-related-disclosures/exposure-draft-and-comment-letters/ • EU Proposal on New Ecodesign Requirements for Sustainable Products • https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?q=9470203b-cb7b-431a-a122-83e3554ab64a • Global Soil Partnership (INSOP) - LAUNCH OF THE SOIL POLLUTION NETWORK Global Soil Partnership Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (fao.org) • HORIZON-MISS-2022-SOIL-01-04: Remediation strategies, methods and financial models for decontamination and reuse of land in urban and rural areas. Note the Participant Portal Link is now available: • https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-miss-2022-soil-01-04 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Update on Sustainable and Risk Based Land Management (SRBLM) book <p>PB wished to thank ISRA members for their contribution and review of the book that he is preparing.</p> <p>It was suggested that Dietmar Mueller chair of Common Forum and International Committee of Contaminated Land (ICCL) should be invited to the next SuRF International meeting so the SuRF community can share the work that they are undertaking in their countries and also hear about the work of the Common Forum and ICCL. Dietmar Mueller is an experienced regulator in Austria working on sustainable and risk based land management. It was felt that this was a good idea.</p> <p>ACTION: NH to invite Dietmar Mueller</p> <p>NH also wanted to make SuRFs aware of the upcoming Sustainathon as part of Remtech Europe. Speakers are being sought on presenters able to speak on meeting the UN SDG work in their countries.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Next meeting</p>

	Next teleconference will be arranged for November 2022. NH will contact SuRF Canada, SURF, NICOLE Latin America or SuRF Colombia to chair the next call.
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	ACTION: NH to arrange the next meeting.
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