



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



11th October plenary session

How to implement a new concept :

Common Forum – NICOLE Joint Statement on

Risk-based and Sustainable remediation

Durban, 11th October 2013

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The Common Forum on Contaminated land in Europe



- ◆ **<http://www.commonforum.eu>**
- ◆ Network of contaminated land policy experts and advisors (since 1994)
- ◆ Mission:
 - Being a platform for exchange of knowledge and experiences, for initiating and following-up of international projects among members,
 - Establishing a discussion platform on policy, research, technical and managerial concepts of contaminated land,
 - Offering an exchange of expertise to the European Commission and to European networks (NICOLE, Sednet, Cabernet, SNOWMAN, IMPEL,).



NICOLE network



<http://www.nicole.org>

Approximately: 25 Industry members, 40 service providers, 20 individual members (universities)

Vivid network with: workshops, working groups, position papers, reports, yearly technology award, newsletter



NICOLE

Network for Industrially Contaminated Land in Europe

SEARCH



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Why a Joint Position Statement?



- ◆ Teaming up and commitment of Authorities and Industry promotes application Europe-wide
- ◆ Define and highlight key messages of SR
- ◆ Encourage a broader uptake of SR principles, approaches and tools
- ◆ Link to the wider European policy arena and provide input to thematic strategies



Context of its development



- ◆ Thorough debate with engagement from many:
 - NICOLE working group on sustainability
 - CF discussions in Washington (October 2011), Basel & Bilbao (2012)
 - 3 US-EPA Webinars
 - 2 European Conferences (Copenhagen 2010, Vienna 2012)
 - Discussion with SURFs (USA, UK, NL, IT, ANZ, CH, ...)



SR Key Messages 1



- ◆ Protection of human health and the environment is paramount
- ◆ SR seeks to maximise the overall benefit through a balanced and transparent decision-making process
- ◆ SR principles embody:
 - Efficient use of environmental, social and economic resources; better/balanced remediation solutions, and enhanced land management
- ◆ Sustainability means different things to all people - stakeholder engagement is crucial to define project-specific objectives and collate feedback



SR Key Messages 2



- ◆ Integration of the elements of sustainability within specific legal and policy contexts, should begin as early as possible, and continue throughout the life of a project
- ◆ Good practice SR, drawing from the work of CLARINET consistent with existing risk-informed con-land management practice, can be found in:
 - SuRF-UK Framework for Assessing the Sustainability of Soil and Groundwater Remediation (CL:AIRE, 2010);
 - NICOLE Roadmap for Sustainable Remediation (NICOLE, 2010)



Dissemination Ideas



- ◆ Many CF & NICOLE ambassadors in national networks
- ◆ CF and NICOLE websites, collect and document case studies
- ◆ European Directorate General for Environment & DG Research
- ◆ Global SURF networks
- ◆ Address attendees of conferences in Copenhagen (2009) and Vienna (2012) and participants of US-EPA webinars
- ◆ Organise a Session at SustRem 2014 (Eol: Italy & Austria)
- ◆ Media opportunities and targeted publications



Thank you for your attention

- <http://www.commonforum.eu/>
- <http://www.nicole.org/>