

# CL:AIRE and its Activities

Nicola Harries – Technical Director  
CL:AIRE

[nicola.harries@claire.co.uk](mailto:nicola.harries@claire.co.uk)

[www.claire.co.uk](http://www.claire.co.uk)

CL:AIRE

# Who is CL:AIRE?

- CL:AIRE is a not for profit organisation that works within the broad environmental and construction sectors promoting “Sustainable Land Reuse”
- Established in 1999
- Works with Industry, Government, Regulators and Academia on collaborative projects within the UK & internationally
- Focussing on improving efficiency and raising industry standards
- Knowledge sharing organisation
- Independent technical advisory group review all CL:AIRE deliverables
- Develop and publish guidance ([CL:AIRE Library \(claire.co.uk\)](http://www.claire.co.uk))
- Large library of resources published by others ([www.claire.co.uk/wall](http://www.claire.co.uk/wall))
- Popular website [www.claire.co.uk](http://www.claire.co.uk)

# CL:AIRE Information Portal

## WALL

- Freely available extensive list of links to past and present water and land guidance documents
  - People encouraged to recommend references that are missing
- <https://www.claire.co.uk/wall>

## CL:AIRE Publications

- CL:AIRE Technical Guidance
- Technical Bulletins
- Case Study Bulletins
- Guidance Bulletins
- Research Bulletins
- Treatability Bulletins
- Site Bulletins
- Technology Demonstration Reports
- Research Project Reports
- Project Bulletins

<https://www.claire.co.uk/information-centre/cl-aire-publications>

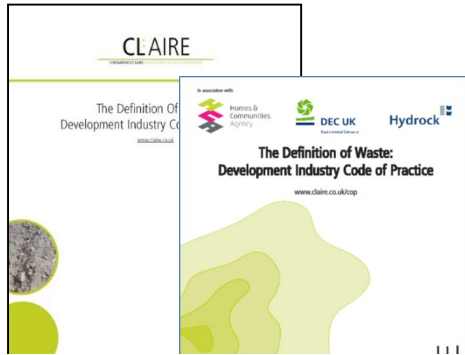


CL:AIRE

# Network Capacity Building

- UK monthly ealerts, industry groups, UK National Brownfield Forum, online and regional forums
- Global Network Links
  - Australia and New Zealand
  - European
  - Latin America
  - North America
  - Asia
  - Sustainable Remediation Fora
  - Africa
- Social Media: CL:AIRE LINKED-IN, and LINKED-IN Group pages, Twitter

# Reuse of Soil : Development Industry Code of Practice



- Work in partnership with the regulators
- Voluntary approach to materials reuse on site
- Developed by industry, used by industry and endorsed by regulator
- Greater clarity leads to consistency and certainty
- Allows soils and materials reuse within fixed parameters
- Soil considered a valuable resource
- Improves efficiency and sustainability
- Qualified person approves that code of practice has been followed
- Published 2008 and then v2 2011
- International interest to replicate



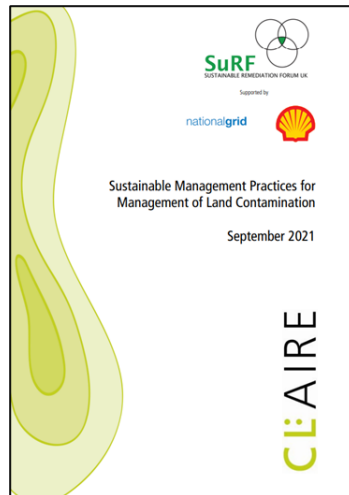
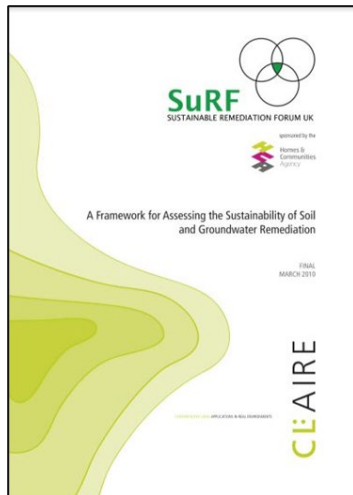
[www.claire.co.uk/CoP](http://www.claire.co.uk/CoP)

CL: AIRE

# Sustainable Remediation



- SuRF-UK established in 2007 – collaboration between industry, regulators, academics and consultants
- Published a framework for measuring sustainability when undertaking redevelopment & remediation in 2010
- Developed simple tools to help assess sustainability during site work & remediation
- 3 minute animation on what is sustainable remediation with subtitles in 16 languages
- All resources freely available at [www.claire.co.uk/surfuk](http://www.claire.co.uk/surfuk)



CL:AIRE

# SuRF International/ISRA



SuRF ANZ  
SuRF Brazil  
SuRF Canada  
SuRF Colombia  
SuRF France  
SuRF Italy  
SuRF Japan  
SuRF Netherlands  
SuRF Taiwan  
SuRF UK  
SuRF USA  
NICOLE  
NICOLE Latin  
America  
NICOLA

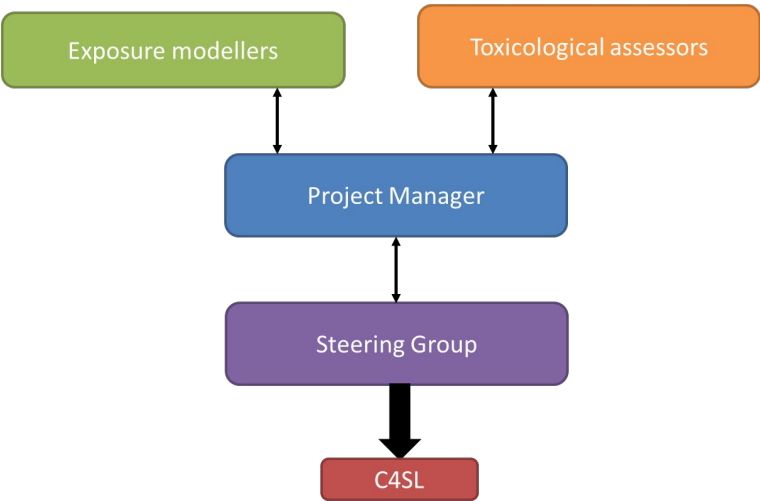
- Meet 2 times a year via teleconference
- CL:AIRE Secretariat
- Share ideas, collaborate on joint initiatives and support new affiliates
- Notes of meetings available on website

[www.claire.co.uk/surfinternational](http://www.claire.co.uk/surfinternational)  
[www.claire.co.uk/isra](http://www.claire.co.uk/isra)

CL:AIRE

# Generic Soil Screening Values

- Collaborative industry initiative to develop 20 soil screening values for a range of contaminants.
- Delivered by a consortium of expert volunteer partners - toxicologists and exposure modellers.
- Overseen by a steering group including Government, regulators and industry group representatives.



Free cyanide	1,2-Dichloroethane
Complex cyanide	Naphthalene
Nickel	Toluene
Vanadium	Ethylbenzene
Beryllium	Xylenes ( <i>o</i> , <i>m</i> , <i>p</i> )
Chloroethene	1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene
Tetrachloroethene	1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene
Trichloroethene	1,2,3-Trimethylbenzene
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	Methyl tertiary butyl ether
Cis-1,2-Dichloroethene	Inorganic Mercury
Trans-1,2-Dichloroethene	

[www.claire.co.uk/c4sl](http://www.claire.co.uk/c4sl)

CL: AIRE



## Reconstructed soils from waste (ReCon Soil)

Soils constructed from waste materials have already been demonstrated to be capable of supporting plant growth and nutrient cycling <sup>[8]</sup>.

The ReCon Soil project aims to:

- 1) Reduce the quantity of soils sent to landfill by the construction sector using a circular economy approach,
- 2) Reduce pressure on natural soils and their associated carbon stocks through the development application-specific soil 'recipes' to reduce the need for translocation of natural soils.
- 3) Contribute to increased soil carbon capture through the incorporation of components capable of long-term carbon storage.

## Applications for reconstructed soils

To ensure the long-term sustainability of reconstructed soils, appropriate recipes will be needed that account for the required soil properties for the intended application, whilst also giving due consideration to local material availability.

### Example uses for reconstructed soils:

- Landscaping soils
- Structural/engineering soils
- Recreational facilities
- Land restoration and rehabilitation
- Controlled growing facilities

## Summary of barriers and challenges

- Regulatory
- Organisational practices
  - Materials quality
  - Public perception
- Logistical and economic challenges

## Reconstructed soil components

Inorganic components	Organic components	Mixed components
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aggregate (e.g. gravel, sand, clay)</li> <li>• Fly ash</li> <li>• Volcanic rock (e.g. basalt, perlite, tuff)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Composted green waste</li> <li>• Wood substrate</li> <li>• Composted bark</li> <li>• Manure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural soils</li> <li>• Biosolids</li> <li>• Dredged sediments</li> <li>• Biochar</li> </ul>



Fig 1. Established reconstructed soil at the Eden Project, Cornwall, UK.



Fig 2. Example soil constituents.

## Acknowledgements and References

With thanks to our funders: [ERDF Interreg Channel-Manche](#).

[1] FAO and UNEP. 2022. Global Assessment of Soil Pollution: Report. [2] Bispo et al. (2017). Front. Environ. Sci., 5, 41. [3] Sanderman et al. (2018). PNAS, 115(7), E1700. [4] Dreyg et al. (2016). GECED, 5, 127. [5] WRAP (2020). Project report RCY111-004. [6] DEFRA (2021). UK statistics on waste. [7] UK HMRC (2021). Changes to landfill tax rates from 1 April 2021. [8] Schofield et al. (2022) Sci. Total Environ., 801, 1228-1236. [9] Royal Society (2018) GGR report.

Thank you

Nicola Harries

[nicola.harries@claire.co.uk](mailto:nicola.harries@claire.co.uk)

[www.claire.co.uk](http://www.claire.co.uk)

CL: AIRE