**COMMON FORUM ON CONTAMINATED LAND IN EUROPE** 



# From National Policy setting to RTD needs identification

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Sednet Conference, Lisbon, November 2013

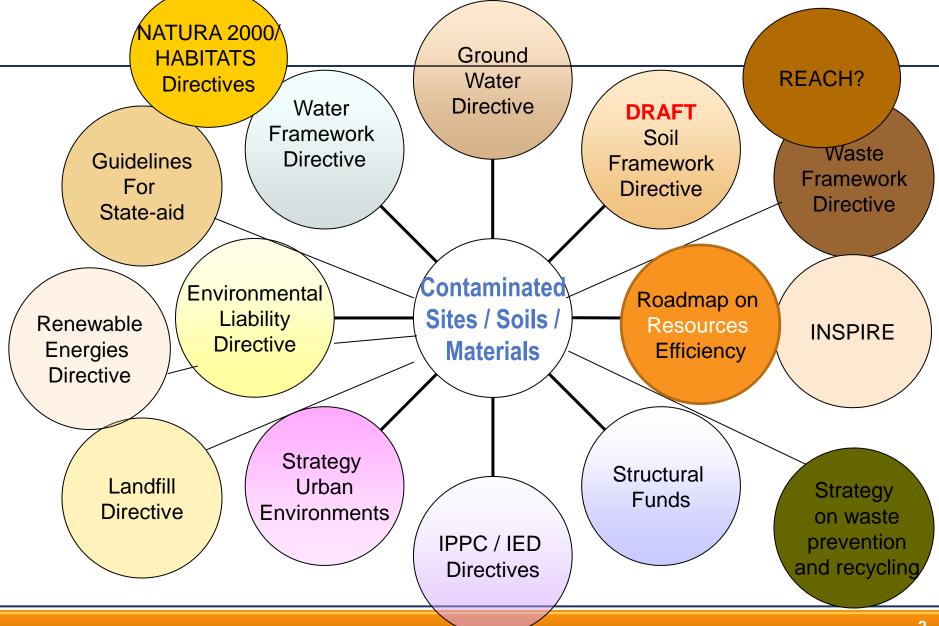
# **ICCL / Common Forum networks**

- Network of contaminated land policy experts and advisors dealing with contaminated land management:
  - International scale (since 1993), Europe (since 1994)

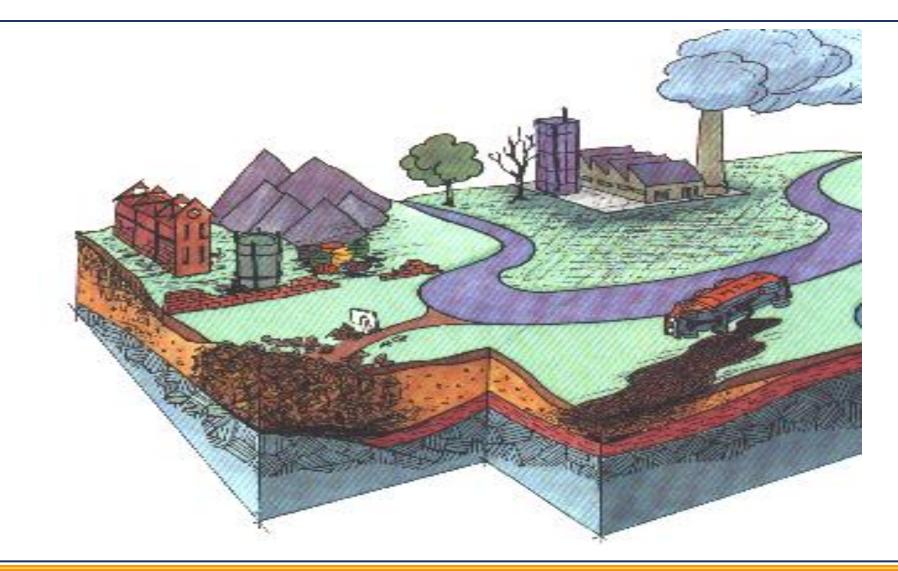
#### Mission:

- 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,

#### Regulatory environment at European level



#### A Soil, Water and Sediment issue



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### the Soil Protection Strategy

- 4 pillars:
  - Framework legislation with protection and sustainable use of soil
    - Soil Protection Directive Draft
  - Integration of soil protection into other policies
    - Environmental Liability Directive Implementation phase
    - Revision of the Sewage Sludge Directive, the IPPC / IED Directive, the Waste Framework Directive
    - INSPIRE / format for environmental reporting
    - Soil Provisions in the Renewable Energies Directive
    - Roadmap on Resource Efficiency
    - Biodiversity, Climat Change, Rural development Plans, etc.
  - Closing the recognised knowledge gap by Community and national research programmes;
  - Increasing public awareness of the need to protect soil

### Second part of the discussion Soil Framework Directive Draft

- German presidency (1st half 2007)
- Portuguese presidency (2nd half 2007)
  - voting for agreement during Environment Council dd. 20.12.2007
  - blocking minority by DE, NL, AT, FR and UK
- French presidency (2nd half 2008) New proposal
- Czech presidency (1st half 2009) Intense discussions
- Spanish presidency (1st half 2010)
  - Start from Portuguese draft
  - Coreper March 2010: 6 against, 4 in middle (Sweden, Finland, Poland and Romania)
- Not at the agendas of the Belgian, Hungarian, Polish, Danish, Irish... EU presidencies
- Not a priority for Lituania presidency

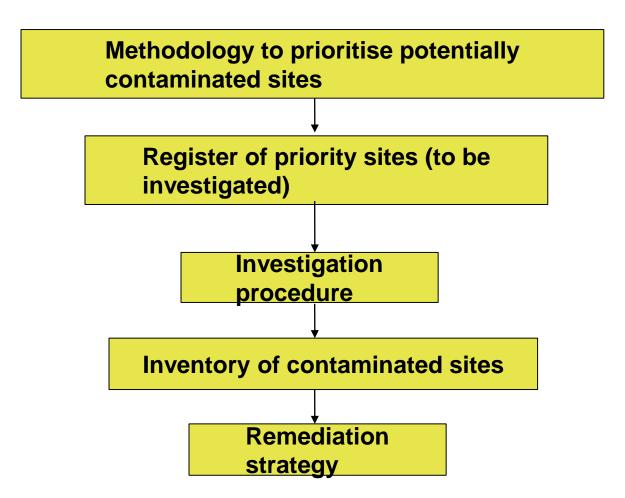
### **Common Forum Actions**

Unformal discussions with CF

- CF Working Group with delegates from PRO and CON Countries (Belgium, Germany, France, Finland, Poland, Slovakia and UK)
- 3 meetings on Chapter III (contamination)
- 2 meetings with extra experts on Chapter II (other threats)
- Posted on

http://www.commonforum.eu/SoilDirectiveAlternative.asp

#### CF Proposal for a Soil Framework Directive Chapter 3 - scheme



# An example of new articles (1/2)

Article 9 'Investigation strategy and inventory of contaminated sites':

- Investigation procedure must be conducted on sites from the register.
- Investigation procedure: assessment of existing information and the presence of receptors; assessment of concentration levels linked to activities; risk assessment when site pose significant risk.
- MS shall establish an inventory of contaminated sites: 5 years after the notification of register (public register & regular updates).
- MS may define investigation strategy for other potentially contaminated sites.
- MS may add sites to inventory pursuant IEA Directive.

# An example of new articles (2/2)

#### Article 10 'Soil status report':

- Soil status report for sites in the register at:
  - transfer
  - changes in type of land use
- MS may establish exemptions when soil status report would impose a disproportionate cost.
  - MS shall decide on the information that must be included.
- MS may establish a period of validity for the soil status report that they consider appropriate.

### And NOW

Discussions with EU presidencies:

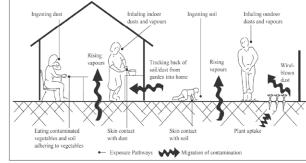
- Denmark
- Cyprus
  - Ireland
- Discussions with European Commission
  - A Framework Directive to harmonise Soil Provisions in EU Legislations
  - Statement on the possible withdrawal of the Soil Directive Draft
- Ongoing discussions within the Common Forum to develop the concepts and identifying the needs for a better implementation / better decision - making

### Evolution of contaminated land policies at national level

- First generation: the early days 1980
  - Drastic risk control, focus on soil contamination
  - systematic approaches (protocols, national inventories)
- Second generation: contaminated land risk assessment 1990
  - Possibilities for tailor-made approaches with cost effective investigations
  - <u>Landuse</u> becomes very important in assessment and decision making
- Third generation: Risk Based Land Management and solution design 2000
  - Integration with spatial planning, water management, socio-economy
  - Economic development vs. protection of Environment & HH

# **Identified RTD needs**

- Detection and fast & cost effective screening methods
- Risk Assessment :
  - Phase partitioning
  - Biodegradation / unsaturated zone
  - Bioavailability quantification
- New innovative remediation techniques
  - Nanomaterials / Nanotechnologies
  - In situ technologies (Bio, Oxydation, ...)
- Link between HH tools and RA & M
- Uncertainties quantification versus decision-making
- Sustainability criteria
- Soil Water Sediment System / integrated approach



# Needs of evolution to meet new challenges 4<sup>th</sup> generation of policy framework

#### Sustainable use of natural resources:

- consumption of resources should not exceed the carrying capacity of the environment,
- de-coupling of resource use and waste generation from economic growth.
- Verification of environmental technologies (eco-efficient, evaluated against 'indicators)
- Life cycle thinking integrated to sector policies
- EU climate and energy targets ("20-20-20"targets): highly energy-efficient, low carbon economy.

# Contaminated Land Management A new paradigm

- Risk Assessment: investigating and understanding environmental impacts and risks taking a tiered approach
- Land Management: designing and implementing actions to reduce negative consequences and balance benefits

#### WATCH OUT:

Protection of human health and the environment is paramount

#### What's common? What's different?

	Risk	Sustainability
origin / use	economy/science	ecology/policy
based on	mental construct	ethical construct
objective	transparency	fairness
important	<ul> <li>single target</li> <li>accountability</li> <li>effectiveness</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>multi-objective</li> <li>interdependency</li> <li>efficiency</li> </ul>
question	Should we act?	How can we act?
support to	better decisions	better action
strategy	prevent or limit	synergy

#### What we need to Enhance

#### MANAGING "LAND" (soil, waters, sediment)

- matching human needs to natural resources and capacities
- crossing geographical and time scales (site to globe and back; short-, mid- and long-term)
- promoting synergies, avoiding irreversibility
- Balancing the three pillars of sustainable land management

# Sustainability in Land Management

#### **Environment protection**

- No problem shifting
- Protecting Environment and Health against risks on the long term
- Reducing Emissions and footprints in land remediation and management (water, energy, soil & land, ...)

#### Social

- Fostering local employment opportunities in communities where sites are reclaimed and reused.
- Integrating reuse in land development needs
- Ethics & Equity

#### Economics

- Decrease Direct costs & Increase benefits
- Rising property values
- Project lifespan & flexibility

### Conclusions

Different pieces of EU legislation,

- Recognise the efforts already done
- Existing Common Ground for managing Contamination
- RTD needs remaining

Need of real integration for more sustainability

- The Soil Sediment Water system and its services!
- Need for sustainable land use and integrated management of the soil-sediment-water system
- Better common understanding/ building consensus

# Thanks for your attention!



# More information on: www.commonforum.eu www.iccl.ch