Call for Abstracts

for the NICOLE 20th ANNIVERSARY NETWORK MEETING

‘LOOKING BACK AT THE FUTURE’
Subtitle: Stepping into the new era of land and resource stewardship!

to be held from 3-4 November 2016 in Amsterdam, The Netherlands

This year the NICOLE network celebrates its twenty-year anniversary. It was founded in 1996 as an EU funded concerted action and nowadays it is a self-sustaining, vibrant network that supports safe and cost effective solutions for the management of industrially contaminated land.

Back in 2006, at the tenth anniversary of NICOLE, the question was raised as to how far off Europe was from the ultimate goal of making the management of contaminated land on industrial sites an obsolete business. At the time, the consensus was that the projected route to achieving this goal would be by implementing technology and management practices that deal with existing pollution cost-effectively and prevent new contamination. Another important conclusion from the 2006 Workshop was that NICOLE has been, and continues to be, a successful network; the vast majority of its membership considered at the time that whilst NICOLE had achieved much success, there was still a lot more to do.

Moving forwards to the present day, we have dealt with a large number of problems over the years and arguably, some would say we have started to close the gap on achieving the longstanding objective of making contaminated land management an obsolete business at some stage in future. However, as we continue to pursue this ultimate objective, there is an increasing need to move the sector towards a more-knowledge based and sustainable practice.

With the above in mind, whilst so much has been achieved in the 20 years since NICOLE was formed, the Amsterdam 20 year Workshop will aim to explore what is still needed for future contaminated land management in terms of land stewardship, best practice and knowledge development and transfer. Land stewardship will focus on management and protection of the values of land by sustainable practices. How we use and manage land should not affect nature nor the ability to sustain biodiversity and provide ecosystem services. Therefore, land management needs to focus on sustainable use of natural capital and resources. Our commitment to land stewardship in industrial areas includes managing and monitoring contaminated land and any other environmental matters to ensure the land can be effectively and efficiently used and / or returned to another use for long-term sustainable development of towns and cities. This also entails a continued effort to prevent new contamination. Sustainable practices are becoming more and more a daily practice but research and dissemination is still needed and it is in this regard that NICOLE can play a big role, both now and in the future.

In the Workshop, important stakeholders from the industry, the EU commission, Dutch Ministry of Environment and former chairs of NICOLE will give their view on what has been achieved and what are the challenges for the future in terms of land stewardship, best practice and knowledge development and transfer.
For the Friday morning we have scheduled two sessions on land and resource stewardship, both presentations and poster presentations including a short overview. This part of the workshop will explore existing and innovative possibilities to integrate land and resource stewardship into a sustainable contaminated land management approach. The focus is on land and resource stewardship, including:

- what is still needed in terms of knowledge development and transfer
- projects which focus on fostering an ethic of stewardship for industrial sites, promoting sustainable practices and developing a safe and healthy industrial environment, and
- projects that have created a transformational change in our way of thinking of the industrial environment.

This call invites abstracts of papers to be presented at the conference. Papers (presentations and posters) focusing upon case studies (non-technical) will be favoured; particularly those drawing out problems encountered, lessons learned and identified solutions.

**SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

Authors are required to submit a one-page abstract of the paper they would like to present (presentation or poster pitch presentation), together with an outline of the structure of the paper and short biography.

Abstracts on case studies should preferably answer the following questions:
1. where is the project situated?
2. which stakeholders (in company and external) have been involved?
3. how has the project engaged with the local stakeholders and enhanced the wider community?
4. what issues were/are important?
5. what was/is the most difficult issue to tackle?
6. what issue has been solved in a highly creative or innovative way?
7. what issue would you like to elaborate on in your presentation?
8. from what (stakeholder-) perspective will you present?
9. what is still needed in terms of knowledge development and transfer?

Abstracts should be sent by **September 2nd, 2016** to the NICOLE Secretariat, email: nan.su@nicole.org

Abstracts will be considered by the Organising Committee. The authors of abstracts will be notified of acceptance or rejection of their submissions by **September 23rd, 2016**. Speakers’ final abstracts and presentations must be submitted by **October 21st, 2016**.

The workshop will take place in the Westergasfabriek Amsterdam.

**CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE:**

Laurent Bakker – TAWU (NL) Chair

Lucia Buvé – Umicore (BE)
Arthur de Groof – SWECO (NL)
Rick Parkman – AECOM (UK)
Phil Crowcroft – ERM (UK)
Paul van Riet – Dow Benelux (NL)
Thomas Held – Arcadis (DE)
Tomás Albergaria – Instituto Superior de Engenharia do Porto (Pt)