



NICOLE AND THE INDUSTRY SUBGROUP (ISG)

NICOLE is considered as the principal forum that European industry uses to develop and influence the technical state of the art in sustainable land management in Europe. This is done in cooperation with service providers and academia. NICOLE's goal is to enable European industry to identify, assess, and manage industrial land efficiently, cost effectively and within a framework of sustainability.

NICOLE has an active ISG, with 25 industrial company members from a wide range of industrial sectors: (petro)-chemical, metals refining, manufacturing, or power plants, which are all facing (historical) contaminated land problems and future challenges, such as incorporating circularity and climate change into land management. The members are experienced professionals from leading organizations. The ISG is led by its chair (presently Nicholas Tymko), and assisted by the Secretariat (Lida Schelwald-van der Kley). The ISG meetings are usually held 2-3 times a year, often coupled to NICOLE network meetings.

Aim

The ISG key aim is to develop and promote management of industrially contaminated land based on risk and sustainability and on a commonly accepted cost-effective approach. To achieve this, the ISG uses several ways of expertise sharing to give direction to policy and technology

development in Europe and the Member States. This helps ISG-Members to be able to influence legal developments with practical input and to be aware of those at an early stage. According to our members, *NICOLE is unparalleled for networking opportunities; putting EU legislation on the radar of industrial problem holders; and technical and technological excellence.*

Expertise sharing

Within the industry subgroup expertise is leveraged through information exchange, based on confidentiality. At ISG meetings one of the members gives a company presentation enlightening company ambition and current policy and (technical) challenges. A timeslot is also reserved at each meeting for members to bring forward and share strategic and technical issues that keep them busy with fellow colleagues. Other means of expertise sharing and input to technology development are:

- NICOLE workshops and newsletter
- NICOLE (applied research) projects
- Participation in Working groups, often related to European directives and the Member State's implementation
- Interaction with major European networks
- Participation in review panels of major research programs and giving technical input to EU working groups
- Regular updates on relevant EU legislation and discussion on potential impact

NICOLE membership benefits

"Philips became a member of NICOLE and the ISG group some decades ago and did not regret it for one single moment. It is a great opportunity to stay up to date and an ideal platform to receive and share the latest developments from technical and legal perspectives, not only from Europe but from all over the world. This occurs at the NICOLE network meetings through presentations, and for sure through networking during coffee

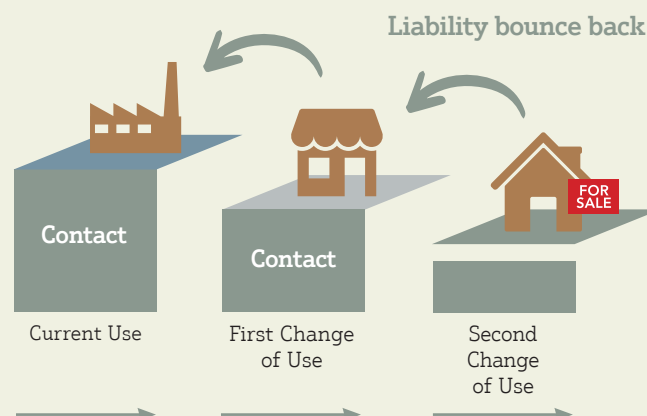
& lunch breaks, and informal dinners where you can meet and mix up with fellow issue owners, consultants, contractors, and academics. It inspires and holds up a mirror about how we are solving our legacies as multinational from a leading position."

Jack Schreurs - Director Environmental Projects Group, Royal Philips

EXAMPLES OF WORKING GROUP DELIVERABLES

NICOLE brownfield Working Group

The NICOLE brownfield WG developed a Framework Document for brownfield divestment in Europe, designed to inform industrial land holders of options to secure as clean an exit from liability as possible, and meet their liability management goals. Given the differences between national jurisdictions within Europe one of the challenges was to provide guidance that can be applied on a Europe-wide basis. To provide this guidance the NICOLE WG brownfields has developed a European "Roadmap" and "Toolkit" for liability transfer. In 2020 parts of this liability study have been updated, thus providing a state-of-the-art document to be used by NICOLE members who need to divest of or acquire industrial land.



NICOLE Sustainability Working Group

The NICOLE sustainability WG developed a road map for sustainable remediation. The road map is intended to provide problem-holders (owners/operators of contaminated land) and all their stakeholders, with a single, structured process to start working together and implementing best practice in sustainable remediation across a wide range of

regulatory and policy frameworks. Designed as a series of steps, it can support robust and durable decisions, regardless of the project size. This road map is highly valued and widely used by both NICOLE industrial members and other stakeholders.

Levels of decision making

Regional/Locality

Spatial planning

Site(s) or Project(s)

Consequences, e.g.: available land use and project possibilities

Remedy selection

Consequences: e.g.: risk management needs

Remediation Process

Remediation design

Roadmap:
Sustainability
management

Consequences: e.g.: risk remediation plan

Road map 2 - Sustainability Assessment

Sustainability Assessment

Feedback to improve ongoing and future decision making

Remediation
Specification

Remediation
Technical Approach

Verification
Implementation
Optimisation

Consequence: completion

NICOLE membership benefits

"Becoming a member of NICOLE gave me the opportunity to expand my external professional network a lot. Within the industry group common issues, trends and good practices are discussed in an open way. During the high-level workshops there are plenty of opportunities to have more detailed discussions and interaction on innovative technologies and approaches with others.

Being a NICOLE member adds value to my daily work and therefore I consider membership of NICOLE as a must for environmental professionals active in land and soil management".

Kathy Verhelst - Bekaert

How can I become a NICOLE member?

You can apply for a NICOLE membership by downloading the Membership Application Form at the NICOLE website (www.NICOLE.org) and returning the form to: Mrs Nan Su, e-mail: nan.su@nicole.org.

For more information about the ISG contact: Mrs Lida Schelwald-van der Kley, ISG Secretary, e-mail: lida.schelwald@nicole.org.