

“COMMON FORUM”

- 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.



The European and International Networks on contaminated land management

- NATO CCMS
- **Common forum on contaminated land in Europe**
 - CARACAS
 - CLARINET
- Ad Hoc Working group on contaminated land / ICCL
- NICOLE
- Sednet
- Cabernet
- Eurodemo / Eurodemo+

- SNOWMAN
- IMPEL (Environmental Inspectorate)



Some examples of Common Forum actions

- New concepts for Contaminated land management:
 - Risk based land management (now in place in some EU countries – third generation of legal frameworks)
- Critical analysis of EU Directives proposals
- Proposal of technical guidance documents for EU Directive implementation
- Discussions with researchers:
 - i.e. need for harmonisation



Collaboration with European networks

- exchange of information
- invitation to network meetings
- Joint Statement Papers:
 - 2009/ innovative technologies for remediation (with NICOLE)
- Joint workshops:
 - Trieste, April 2010: opportunities, challenges and financial consequences of evolving legislation in Europe
- advisory for calls for proposals, peer review of proposals
- publication/advertising of SNOWMAN calls for proposals
- participation to project advisory boards,
- contribution to dissemination of scientific results, expertises, new technologies



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
 - Landuse 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



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CLARINET proposed a new policy concept

- **Scope**
 - Pan -European , allowing for regional and site specific solutions
 - Targeted at legacies from the past when preventive regulations were not in force
- **Aims**
 - Integration of soil and water protection, spatial planning, engineering
 - Ensure protection of health and environment
 - Environmental social and economic sustainability
- **Key dimensions**
 - Fitness for use
 - Protection of the environment
 - Long term care



The solution landscape

- **Risk reduction requirements**
 - Source, Pathway or Target ?
 - Slow (bio) remediation or fast civil engineering approaches?
 - Certainty versus uncertainty?
- **Landuse related requirements**
 - Landuse may prohibit capping
 - Soil removal is necessary for construction
- **Spatial planning requirements**
 - Is landuse likely to change in future
- **Management requirements**
 - funding
 - communication
 - legal constraints



Decision making styles

**Stringent
precautionary**

**Targets set
on an
arbitrary
basis**

RBLM

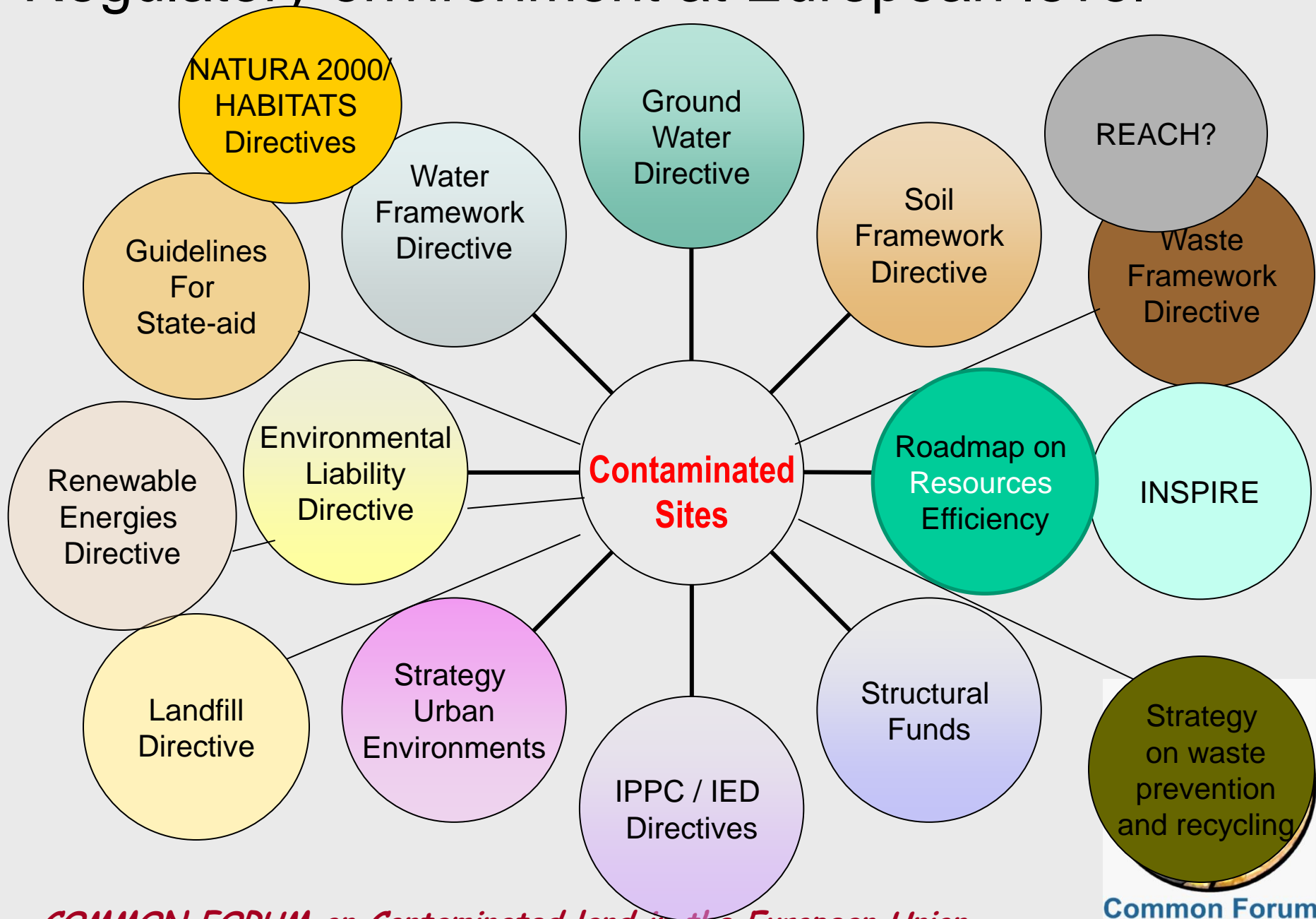
**Targets set
by complex
systems**

“Laissez faire”



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Regulatory environment at European level



CF questionnaires

- **Review of specific issues**
 - ELD implementation
 - regulatory framework in Member States
 - Mining residues inventory
 - IED transposition & implementation

- Available at CF website
(www.commonforum.eu)



TYPES OF SITUATION FACED

- Suspected land: is it a problem? Is it risky?
- Are the operating site impacts acceptable?
- Is the future redevelopment project feasible on this particular site?
- Site closure: What should I do for regenerating the land?



Human Health Risk Assessment & Management for contaminated sites/land

- Risk approach, Site Specific basis in all countries
- Different objectives / Different needs:
 - Derivation of soil quality standards / threshold values
 - Assessment of actual or potential risk at specific site
 - Derivation of remediation objectives
 - Ranking of sites in regard of HH / priority settings
- Humans surrounded by and in close contact with contaminants (transport, industrial site, contam. – holding materials and matrices, ...)
 - At overall population level, CS have limited impact
 - At local level, exposure to CS can dominate.



Needs for Harmonisation or Common Ground for RA? (1/2)

- **Geographical level: Impossible! Too different**
 - Soil / aquifer materials
 - Climate,
 - Vegetable, food and water consumptions
 - Land use scenarios (time scale options, ...)
- One set of Soil Quality Standards?
No!
- The same blueprint? No!



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Needs for Harmonisation or Common Ground? (2/2)

- **Technical level:**

- Tool box for Risk Assessment, with several models, different levels of details
- Common protocol for choosing the appropriate models
- Common set of exposure factors, reference doses?
- Recommendations for i.e. use of safety factors? Taking into consideration background levels?

- **Political level:**

- Acceptable risk for different land uses?
- Targets to be protected (Human Health, Ecosystems? Ground water, Surface waters, Others?)
- Substances to be covered / excluded



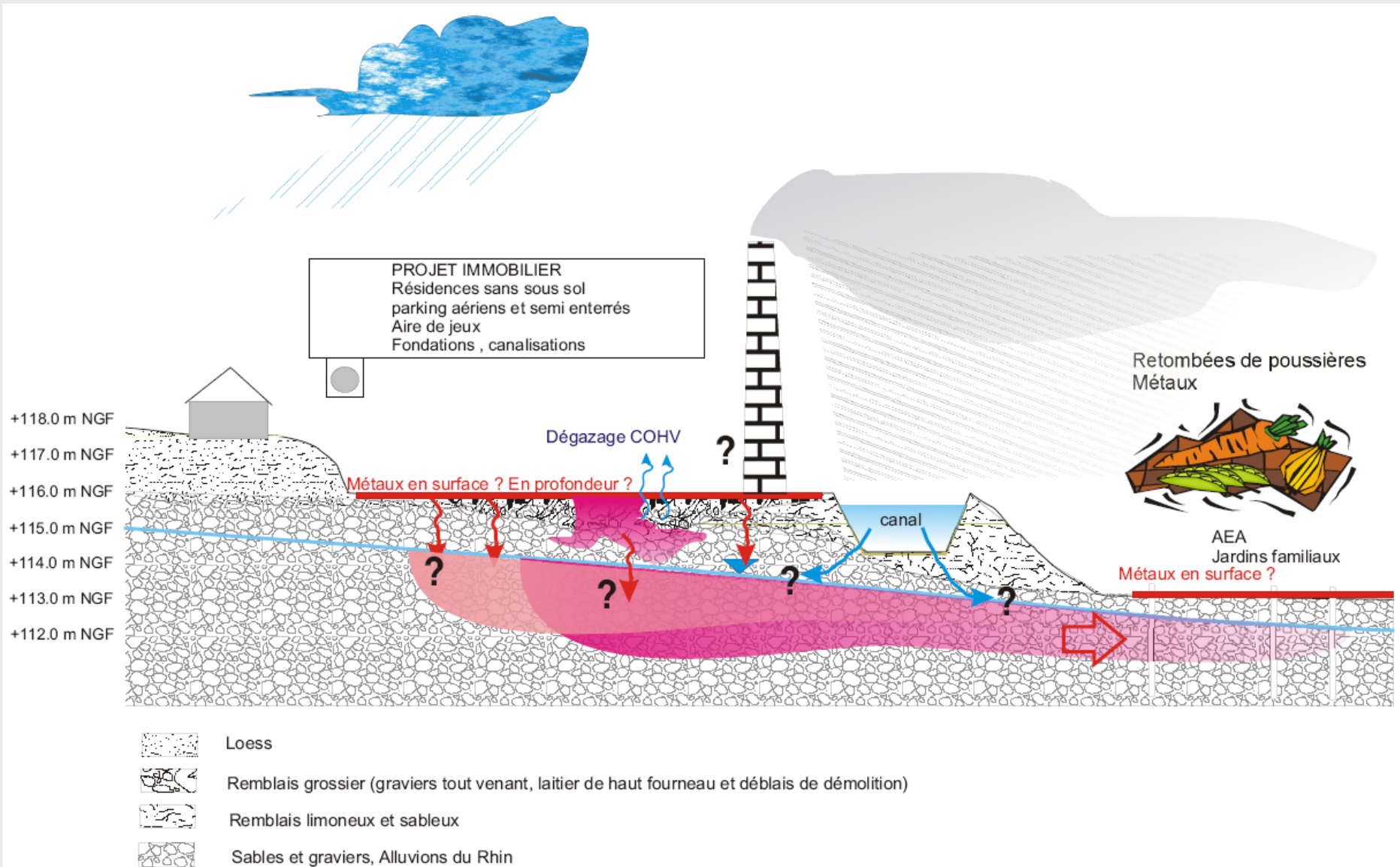
Managing contaminated sites

Key messages (1/3)

- **Several dimensions / a single framework**
 - **With legal, technical, financial, organisational tools**
 - Preventing new pollution – Impact Assessment of new projects
 - Operating industrial sites:
 - Preventing Accident / special infrastructures, warning systems, monitoring
 - Reducing emissions / Use of BATNEEC (processing, filtering)
 - Polluter pays principle
 - Act as soon as emission.
 - Legacy pollution:
 - Risk based approach – from RBLM to sustainable land management
 - Use a tiered approach using cost-benefits approach
 - Combining and balancing the three pillars of sustainable remediation



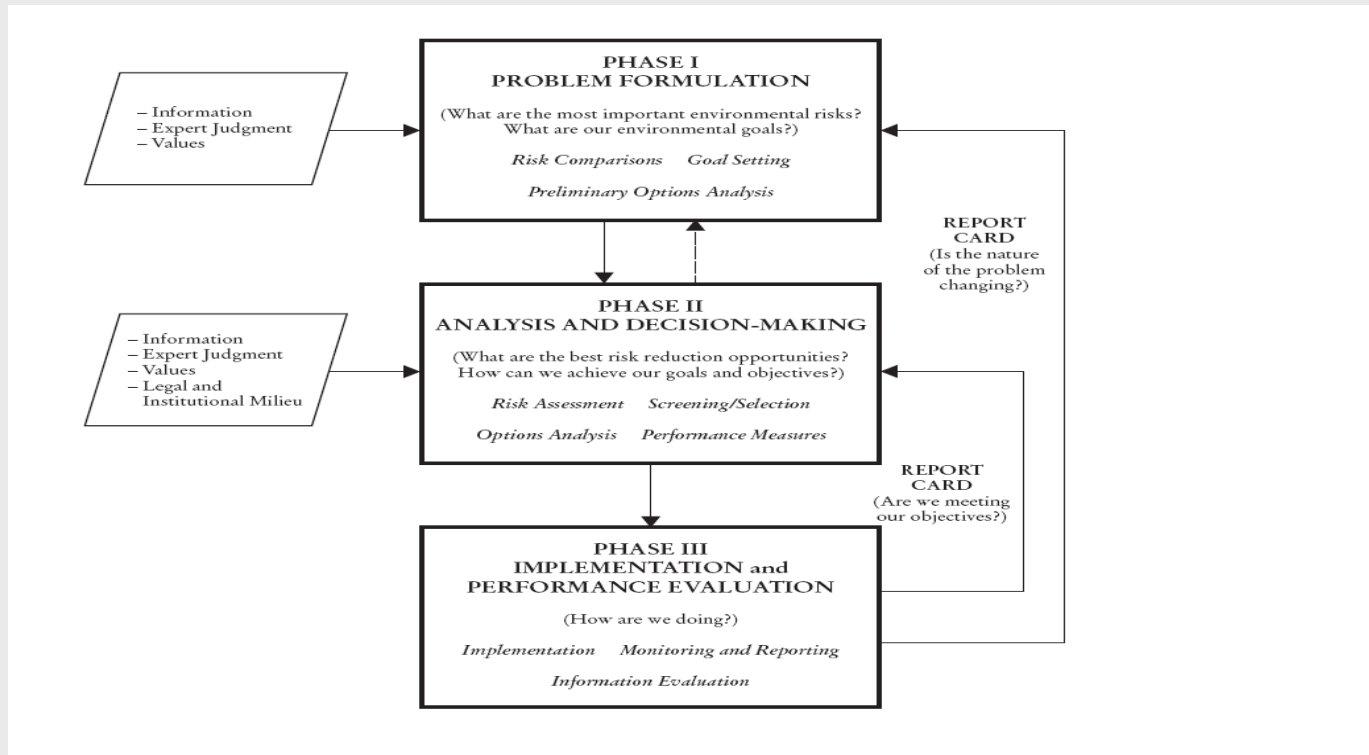
SITE CONCEPTUAL MODEL: ASSUMPTIONS? CHALLENGES? ON SITE & IN THE SURROUNDINGS (2/3)



Managing contaminated sites

Key messages (3/3)

- Exceeding reference values? Is it a problem?
 - Should be interpreted on a case by case basis
- Use a tiered approach



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- Thanks for your attention!



- More information on
www.commonforum.eu

