

Selected Newly Added Documents on EUGRIS

EUGRIS now has a new easier to use format, which I hope you will find the time to have a quick look at. 46 resources, events projects and news items were added to EUGRIS 1 –24 November 2008. These can be viewed at: <http://www.eugris.info/whatsnew.asp>

Then select the month and year for the updates you are interested in

Resources added include this selection:

Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs, 2008,
Sources and impacts of past, current and future contamination of soil

The overall objective of this report is to identify the major past, current and future sources of soil contaminants, and to assess their potential impacts on soil functions. More specifically, the objectives of the project are:

1. To identify the major contaminants applied or deposited on soils.
2. To identify the most important current and future sources of soil contaminants and assess their relative significance.
3. To assess the potential for contaminant mobilisation and transportation by floodwaters or other mechanisms.
4. Review current and planned regulations and voluntary initiatives to control contaminant sources, and assess their actual and potential effectiveness.
5. Assess the relative impact of each contaminant and source on soil functions, and any associated economic implications.
6. Identify and prioritise knowledge deficiencies and research needs with respect to the significance and impacts of contaminant inputs to soil.

Nico van den Brink, Alterra, Wageningen UR, 2008,
Breaking Ecotoxicological Restraints in Spatial Planning (BERISP)

BERISP aims at the development of new approaches to problems in spatial planning associated with soil contamination. North-Western Europe, with its high population density, faces increasing demands for open natural space. Many local authorities however, are currently confronted with problems regarding site development and soil pollution in for instance river floodplains and brownfields. The main objective of BERISP is the development of a Decision Support System (DSS), which will allow an iterative procedure in spatial planning processes, in which planner can review different types of landscape uses and habitat distribution against scientific knowledge on risks of pollutants for organisms.

Environment Agency (England and Wales) 2008
Soil contamination ecological assessment framework (2008)

The ERA framework provides a structured approach for assessing the risks to ecology from chemical contamination in soils (a requirement under Part 2A (Contaminated Land) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990). The framework consists of a three-tiered risk assessment process:

Tier 1 of the risk assessment is a screening step based on a comparison of chemical analyses of site soils with a soil screening value (SSV) for the contaminants of potential concern.

Tier 2 uses a choice of tools (ecological surveys and biological testing) to gather evidence for any harm to ecological receptors (plant and animal species) present at the site.

Tier 3 seeks to attribute the harm to the chemical contamination.

It has been designed to establish whether pollutant linkages are likely to exist between the contamination and the designated ecological receptors; and gather sufficient information for making decisions regarding whether harm to these receptors is occurring or could occur in the future.

**Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), 2008,
Demolition Protocol 2008**

The 2008 Demolition Protocol has been developed to provide an overarching framework which enables the waste hierarchy to inform approaches for managing buildings and structures at the end of their lives. There is more emphasis on the need to assess the reuse of buildings, structures, elements and products prior to demolition and recycling activities, recognising the carbon benefits of doing so. The 2008 Protocol also provides an integrated approach to the development of Site Waste Management Plans, with indicative targets described and approaches which deliver major benefits to clients.

Project

Rejuvenate: Crop Based Systems for Sustainable Risk Based Land Management for Economically Marginal Degraded Areas

The aims of this project are to:

- explore the feasibility of a range of possible approaches to combining risk based land management (RBLM) with non-food crop land-uses and organic matter re-use as appropriate,
- identify a “matrix” of potential opportunities worthy of further development in the UK, Germany and Sweden and in a wider European context, and
- assess how verification of their performance might be carried out and identifying what requirements remain for future research, development and demonstration.