

## 2<sup>nd</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

### SUSTAINABLE REMEDIATION

#### Benchmarking of Excavated Soil Reuse Management in Europe Development of a French management framework

Blanc Céline, Dominique Darmendrail,  
BRGM (France)

[c.blanc@brgm.fr](mailto:c.blanc@brgm.fr); [d.darmendrail@brgm.fr](mailto:d.darmendrail@brgm.fr)

**Keywords:** *Excavated soils, management, Framework, Europe, France*

#### **Benchmarking of Excavated Soil Reuse Management in Europe**

Management of excavated soil remains a problem for a number of European Member States. The revision of the EU Waste Framework Directive defines now the legal framework applicable to excavated soil at EU level. However, its implementation at the national level is based on technical conditions of reuse of this land which differ between European countries. Most development projects in urban areas or remediation projects on contaminated and/or brownfield sites have to face the challenge of the reuse of the excavated soils.

As part of its work to develop a national management framework, the French Ministry of Environment wanted to benefit from some experienced countries. The legislation of several European countries or regions in Europe (Switzerland, Belgium/Flanders & Wallonia, the Netherlands, Finland, Basque Country, Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom) was assessed by BRGM to compare the management approach for excavated soil. In particular the study covered the following issues:

- the different status of excavated soil between these Member States (waste, not waste, polluted / unpolluted, □ ),
- the establishment (or not) of specific legislation for excavated soils (using soil legislation, waste legislation, □ ),
- the consideration of the receptor site use and the soil qualities,
- the basic principles of the national/regional approach (e.g. typology of acceptable / sustainable reuses, site specific or generic, cost-benefits analysis).

The proposed presentation will focus on the feedback assessment on excavated soil management in the most experimented countries which have existing policies taking into consideration this issue (such as the Netherlands and the UK).

#### **Development of a French management framework**

Based on this feedback, a French management framework has been developed between 2009 and 2012 in order to define rules and protocols to guide the sustainable reuse of soils ensuring the protection of human health and the environment.

To clarify these rules and provide stakeholders a common operational framework, the French Ministry for Environment asked BRGM and INERIS to draft a methodological guidance document related to the off-site reuse of excavated soil (for road construction, or development projects) and develop the tools necessary for implementation at local / regional levels. After a review of European countries practices, these methodological tools have been developed with the support of working groups composed of a wide range of stakeholders (professional associations, environmental protection association, planners, lawyers ...). They are now public available on the French Portal for Contaminated land management (<http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/Guide-de-reutilisation-hors-site.html>).

The intervention will explain how the French Soil management framework has been draft (basic principles and agreed assumptions, difficulties, timeframe) and present this framework and especially the conditions for reuse and the tools developed (groundwater risk assessment tool, information traceability database / Terrass).



**CONTAMINATED LAND MANAGEMENT TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY**  
**RESPECTING COMMON RESPONSIBILITIES GLOBALLY,**  
**UNDERSTANDING NATURAL AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS REGIONALLY,**  
**MAKING IT WORK LOCALLY**