



Joint SMART GROUND/COCOON/RAWFILL Workshop

Venue: OVAM, Stationsstraat, 110 2800 Mechelen - Belgium



07 February 2018

8:30 – 14:30

Overview

Europe has somewhere between 150,000 and 500,000 landfill sites, with an estimated 90% of them being “non-sanitary” landfills, pre-dating the EU Landfill Directive of 1999. These older landfills tend to be filled with municipal solid waste and often lack any environmental protection technology. In order to avoid future environmental and health problems, many of these landfills will soon require expensive remediation measures. This situation might appear bleak, but it does present us with an exciting opportunity for a combined resource-recovery and remediation strategy, which will drastically reduce future remediation costs, reclaim valuable land, while at the same time unlocking billions of tonnes of valuable resources contained within these landfills. The European Commission further acknowledges that in order to achieve the resource efficiency targets set in their ‘*Closing the Loop – EU Action Plan for the Circular Economy*’, an increment in reuse and recycling of key waste streams has to be undertaken by making a specific reference to enhanced landfill mining. However, the widespread adoption of landfill mining in the EU urgently requires skilled scientists, engineers, economists and policy makers who can develop cost-effective, environmentally friendly landfill mining practices and regulatory frameworks. When considering mining of either municipal solid waste (MSW) landfill or extractive disposal sites, estimating the amount of different types of materials, their potential recovery and treatability and subsequent utilization routes are essential for assessing the sustainability of the mining opportunity.

This joint workshop will provide an overview on initiatives and progress made to date on three EU landfill mining/management funded projects ([SMART GROUND](#), [RAWFILL](#) and [COCOON](#)) along with tools to assess the suitability and feasibility of landfill mining, recovery methods and approaches with the key technical, environmental and economic considerations explored. Discussion will also take place on the issues surrounding project development, exploring how to minimise environmental impacts, including remaining issues over environmental contamination, emissions and noise in local communities - as well as the future of regulatory frameworks to address these concerns.

Programme

08:30	Arrival, registration and coffee
09:20	Welcome - Eddy Wille (OVAM)
09:30	Chair's Opening address – Dr Stuart Wagland (Cranfield University)
09:40	SMART GROUND project background - Marco de la Feld (ENCO) – SMART GROUND project coordinator
9:55	SMART GROUND approach and pilot studies – Dr Giovanna Dino (University of Turin)
10:15	SMART GROUND databank overview – Jorge Lopez (ATOS)
10:35	SMART GROUND Decision Support Tools – Prof. Frederic Coulon (Cranfield)
10:55	Question and Answer Session
11:15	Coffee break in the networking area
11:40	RAWFILL project overview and progress – Dr Claudia Neculau (Spaque)/ Renaud Derijdt (Atrasol)
12:00	COCOON project overview and progress – Dr Annick Vastiau (i-Cleantech Vlaanderen)/ Eddy Wille (OVAM)
12:20:	Discussion – Next steps
13:00:	Lunch
14:30	Workshop ends

Benefits of attending

- Discover what local authorities need to have in place to meet demand in landfill mining and what evidence is required to help reach the best decisions for their local areas.
- Gain a greater understanding of landfill mining project, planning and industry developments.
- Hear about the environmental regulation and legislation and new rules for determining applications.
- Leading academics explaining concerns and the potential benefits to the community and to the EU economy for enhanced landfill mining.
- Benefit from expert views and independent evidence to inform comprehensive decision-making and avoid costly appeals.
- Hear about operator's plans moving forward on where they are looking to invest and to what level over the next twelve months and beyond.
- Discuss what can be done to minimise environmental impacts
- How to deal with public concerns and effectively communicating with your community.
- Take advantage of knowledge sharing and professional networking.

Eventbrite

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