

## **Steering Group No 5, 6<sup>th</sup> September 2005, Manchester University MINUTES**

AM / JR 16-09-05

Project team meeting: Alastair Moore, Joe Ravetz, Julian Ridal, Rachel Birch, Helen Rimmer, Mary Parkinson, Vickie O'Kelly

Apologies: Glyn Edwards, Cllr Neil Swannick, Innes Deans, Jayne Ashley, Mark Atherton, Peter Jones, Henry Leveson Gower, Sally Randles, Jonathan Nobbs, Simon Shackley, Todd Holden, Chris Shearlock, Nigel Lawson, Liz Martin, Lynn Rowe

### **1. Minutes & matters arising from previous meeting:**

- None to report

### **2. Developments in resource flow & footprinting methods**

- CURE is developing the 'activity model' which converts input-output data to practical units: nearly complete
- SEI released beta-version of REAP to 'super user' group (including CURE) for interface testing; tool presents tool architecture but functionality is minimal at present
- SEI wants to develop a back-flow analysis tool to see what materials are mobilized by a unit of consumption
- A paper about Ecological Footprint and Input-Output Analysis – core of REAP – has been published by the Sustainable Consumption team at SEI ([Click here to see paper](#))

### **3. Applications: construction & urban development**

- Work underway to develop scope and parameters for a construction module within REAP; construction materials and waste being used as case studies to test REAP assumptions and functionality
- Construction model being piloted in Sustainable Construction Workshop on Sept 6th
- BRE report on construction trends and measures in the NW completed, and can be found on [Project website](#).
- BRE are leading with the 'Resource2005' conference on Sept 13-15<sup>th</sup>. Also links with the Construction Industry Environmental Forum. There is rapid spread of environmental awareness in Scotland.

- NWDA currently co-funding the Centre for Construction Innovation NW: looking for indicators of sustainable construction & evidence of value for money; doing research on whether or not to mandate BREEAM 'very good' on all building projects it funds:

#### 4. Applications: business environmental management

- (See next item)

#### 5. Applications: waste & materials management

- Vickie O'Kelly (Regional Coordinator for BREW programme) trying to identify sectors which have the largest waste volume, what it is composed of and where it is going
- Doing study on 'wider waste' strategy for region; looking to identify what businesses are having the biggest waste problems and what returns on investment could be realized.
- DEFRA will be investing more and more landfill tax money in waste mgmt projects; hence they need evidence base to direct investment
- **Action: A. Moore to contact Lynne Rowe at EA to obtain latest DEFRA National Survey of industrial & commercial waste.**

#### 6. Applications: regional strategy:

- RES out for consultation until 30 Sept, then reviewed and into Board at end of December
- The possibility was raised of an 'Alternative RES' as produced in some other regions, and also being prepared for the Eco-Budget UK project.
- Open Strategy (N Zealand): NWRA received funding from NWDA and DEFRA for Open Strategy (website where people can propose / debate / develop projects in democratic-style discussion forum) on Sustainable Construction;
- Barbara Morton of Univ of Manchester is leading open strategy on Centre for Excellence in Procurement.
- National Sustainable Procurement (DEFRA/DTI) task force very interested in NW pilot
- **Action: H. Rimmer to link Eco-Region NW into forum**
  - SNW have put in EoI to BREW funding at NWDA on publication & conference on Sustainable production & consumption.

**Action: JR / AM to circulate concept note aiming at BREW application for Eco-Region follow on for business waste minimization etc.**

#### 7. Workshops / forums:

- Sustainable construction workshop date: Sept 6/05
- Objectives are to demonstrate REAP construction model, present scenarios and benchmarking system, refine scenarios and review REAP policy levers
- Invitees: designers, academics, planners, policy-makers: well attended.

## 8. **Communications:**

- There is general interest in maintaining a regional MFA / EF monitoring forum beyond Eco-region NW
- In initial instance, can probably do this through website.

- **Action: JR to circulate website specs.**

## 9. **Project work programme**

- Proceeding according to plan

## 10. **AOB & next meeting**

**Provisional dates to be confirmed:**

<b>Steering group 6:</b>	<b>Thursday January 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.30 – 12.30</b>
<b>Steering group 7:</b>	<b>Thursday April 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.30 – 12.30</b>
<b>Launch:</b>	<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May:</b>	<b>2.00 – 5.00</b>