Supply Chain Resource Sustainability (SCRS) / Advanced Resource Efficiency Centre (AREC) Collaborative Steering Group meeting

Venue: The University of Sheffield, Management School, Conduit Road, Sheffield S10 1FL (in Meeting Room 1&2)
Date and time: Tuesday 28 October 2014, 10am – 12:30pm (including light lunch)

Minutes Statements

1. Chair welcomed all attendees to the Advanced Resource Efficiency Centre Collaborative Steering Group (AREC CSG) meeting, and looked forward to building on the success of the Supply Chain Resource Sustainability (SCRS)/AREC initiative and thanked all AREC CSG members for their contributions.
2. Chair reported on the major progress of the SCRS/AREC initiative, following on from the kick-off workshop held in July 2014 at the AMRC.
3. A briefing note and a presentation on the AREC initiative covering 3 key areas: (1) Governance, scale and scope; (2) Project matrix and priority; and (3) Collaborative business model, investment and funding, were delivered the Chair. All CSG members contributed to the discussion and shaping of the AREC initiative.
4. Milestones achieved were reported, whilst milestones ahead were discussed.
5. The role of the CSG was defined and agreed; and a Terms of Reference (TOR) for the AREC CSG was also circulated to members.
6. The governance structure and partnership model of the AREC was discussed and agreed. This included scaling of the AMRC model in the AREC.
7. The mission, vision and strategic objectives for the AREC were discussed; and with some very minor wording adjustments, they have been agreed.
8. The Plan (3/10/30) was discussed and ways to achieve them with goals, resources and monitoring have been agreed.
9. The wealth of existing resources as part of AREC that the UoS already has was presented, whilst additional resources needed in terms of time/commitment, development of projects and funding and investment, were discussed and agreed. The role of the AREC CSG is to contribute in these keys areas, and encourage the commitment of investment and resources.
10. Synergies with other related initiatives were discussed and identified; and follow-up with individual CSG members will be made.
11. Sources of funding and investment, and stakeholders’ benefits were presented and discussed.
12. It was agreed that the AREC CSG members will play a key role in: (1) management and monitoring; (2) promotion; and (3) steering and resourcing, for the AREC.
13. It was agreed that all AREC CSG members to ensure the AREC partnership model and the role of the AREC CSG are implemented for the AREC.
14. In terms of the overall role of the AREC, it was agreed that it would be to share created value for the UoS, partners and funding bodies, who will be the key players within AREC.
15. Strategy and technique to engage with business and government for the AREC as a ‘must have’ were discussed and agreed. It was agreed that all AREC CSG members to ensure the AREC are embedded within Government strategies and direction; and are promoted to industry including large enterprises and SMEs. It was also agreed that the AREC CSG industry associations to play a key role to help widening the reach of the AREC to business and industry communities.
16. A series of projects were put forward by CSG members, and the development of the project matrix for the AREC was completed. These projects have industry leads, including theme/sector based projects built from the challenges identified from the summer SCRS/AREC workshop and the SCRS report; as well as infrastructure project such as AREC demonstration facility. Specific central resources needed for the AREC has also been presented. Building from this project matrix, it was agreed by the CSG that investment will be sought to support them.
17. It was agreed that the Chair to contact the leads and individuals to shape details of the above projects. The CSG will then co-develop the projects for funding and investment.
18. Chair recapped on the next steps for the AREC, including specific sources of funding and specific resources need for the AREC.
19. Chair thanked all attendees for a productive meeting and for making significant contributions to the development of the AREC via the CSG.