

**GOVERNING THE ANTHROPOCENE: CYBERSYSTEMIC POSSIBILITIES?  
SCHLOSS HERRENHAUSEN, 30-31<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2015**

**INQUIRY RECORDING TEMPLATE**

Table Number:	4
Participant Names	Adreas Rechkemmer, Sven Herrmann, Martin Reynolds, , Pille Bunnell, Achim Schlutter, Lindie Botha, Sandra Mendez-Fajardo
Recorder Names: (PhD Students + others)	Sandra Mendez-Fajardo, Lindie Botha,

**DAY 1 Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July**

**Please take a photo of your table group at some suitable point during day 1 or day 2 and insert at the end of the template.**

INQUIRY 3 – At the end of this session have all Issues (I) and Opportunities (O) listed from sticky notes on conversation maps – take and insert photos (2) of sticky notes on conversation maps.

<p><b>ISSUES – List</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of transparency hides human “partiality” (individual and cultural). Governance systems are getting more “complicated”, hiding much of the underlying complexity.</li> <li>• Independence vs. interdependence, both are needed, and extreme positions can be problematic</li> <li>• Failure of vertical governance systems – the existing systems are robust, but not necessarily meeting the governance needs of the systems</li> <li>• Tendency to generalise when we talk about “needs” on a global scale</li> </ul>	<p><b>OPPORTUNITIES – List</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Because we are able as humans, to make distinctions in the world, to be able to distinguish, we have moral obligation to enhance the way we do this</li> <li>• Humans have the ability and opportunity to cooperate</li> <li>• Structural interactions</li> <li>• Our culture teaches us to be independent, there are opportunities for social learning to learn more about interdependence</li> <li>• Look again at the discourse around the “Anthropocene”, always have a negative connotation, like “egocentric”. But humans are also creative and have agency. Shouldn’t this be celebrated more, rather than hiding it or being defensive about it?</li> </ul>
--	---

See attached photos 1-4 are from day 1

INQUIRY 4 – Update listing of Issues and Opportunities noting any changes to existing ones and adding new ones.

<p><b>ISSUES – list</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The use of models: You have to bridge the gap between the technocrats and lay people, since technocrats have one model of reality, but does it have any social legitimacy?</li> <li>• Modelling is difficult when dealing with human behaviours</li> </ul>	<p><b>OPPORTUNITIES- list</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participatory modelling brings the opportunity of learning from the error</li> <li>• Using models to educate and explore, not just to predict. How do we get people involved in the modelling exercise? How do we use it to educate?</li> <li>• Develop playfulness around models and modelling</li> <li>• Because people operate in various groups, they can communicate ideas towards effectiveness – “Structural intersection”</li> </ul>
---	---

## DAY 2 Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July

**Please take a photo of your table group at some suitable point during day 1 or day 2 and insert at end of template**

<b>KEY REFLECTIONS ON DAY 1 + NEWS OF DIFFERENCE</b>	
<b>1. REFLECTIONS ON DAY 1 (list here)</b>	
Systems theory is a broad church, each with its own specialised beliefs and use of language – sometimes difficult to find a ‘common’ language	
<b>2. NEWS OF DIFFERENCE (list here):</b>	
Pair 1: There were not relevant differences	
Pair 2: One of the most important difference was around answers to this question: If in the first order of cybernetics, Human Values can be expressed, how can we measure them in the second order?	
Pair 3:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There was a focus in our group on actors who participate in the governance field (in structured ways), other tables also talked about “anarchic” actors</li> <li>- The “Power” concept was more explicitly included, and talking about how the lack of transparency can be the main cause of failure in cooperation or efforts to cooperate between disparate groups</li> <li>- The (special) distribution of growth (?)</li> <li>- Other table talked more about interdisciplinary: different fields of interest exist but there is a need for integrating theories in system science ..</li> </ul>	
<b>3. Update listing of Issues and Opportunities - noting any changes to existing ones and adding new ones.</b>	
ISSUES – list 1 Making modelling more accessible 2 3	OPPORTUNITIES- list 1 Develop community modelling for democracy 2 3
See attached photos 5-12 for photos of Day 2	

**INQUIRY SESSION 5: Update Issues/Opportunities and Reorganise**

**1. Update listing of Issues and Opportunities - noting any changes to existing ones and adding new ones.**

ISSUES – list 1 Importance of taking shared responsibility for the current outcomes in the Anthropocene 2 3	OPPORTUNITIES- list 1 Conversation as an important tool for building mutual understanding across disciplinary divides 2 3
Insert photo 1 of revised conversation map	Insert Photo2 (if not included in photo 1)

**2. Photo of reorganised Issues and Opportunities on new sheet**

Please Insert any additional Narrative elements here – e.g. agreements, disagreements, explanations novel insights etc

Any conversation about “control” in systems must be accompanied by discussions of feedback – feedback brings a normative dimension that keeps the “controlling” aspects in check

See attached photos 5-12 for photos of Day 2

**INQUIRY SESSION 6: Update Issues/Opportunities**

**1. Update listing of Issues and Opportunities - noting any changes to existing ones and adding new ones.**

<p>ISSUES – list</p> <p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p>	<p>OPPORTUNITIES- list</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Despite our challenges, humans still have the capacity to plan and cooperate, to come up with novel solutions, to be creative ‘actors’</li> <li>• Importance of broad understanding of “governance” to create space for innovation to emerge. Understanding the difference between “government” and “governance”</li> </ul>
<p>Insert photo 1 of revised conversation map</p>	<p>Insert Photo2 (if not included in photo 1)</p>

**2. Photo of clusters of Issues and Opportunities on new sheet**

<p>See attached photos 5-12 for photos of Day</p> <p>2</p>	
--	--

**INQUIRY SESSION 7: Formulating an actionable system**

**1. Update listing of Issues and Opportunities - noting any changes to existing ones and adding new ones.**

ISSUES – list 1 2 3	OPPORTUNITIES- list 1 2 3
Insert photo 1 of revised conversation map	Insert Photo2 (if not included in photo 1)

**2. List of subsystems title and opportunities**

<i>Subsystem title</i>	<i>Opportunities in Subsystem</i>
Education	Modelling as education tool
Human cognition	Ability to reflect, be critical and plan
Praxis	Conversation as a tool to develop a bridge between theory and practice
Caring	Concern for, attentiveness towards humans and non-humans
Responsibility	Because we can distinguish responsibility, we have responsibility
Rights	Modelling to promote citizen participation and democracy
See attached photos 10-12 for photos of Day 2	

Please Insert any additional Narrative elements here – e.g. agreements, disagreements, explanations novel insights etc

The value of “interdependence” vs independence as core value for overcoming challenges of Anthropocene..

### 3. Voting on priority subsystems

Listing on priority subsystems

1. We didn't have time for this step...
  - 2.
  - 3.
  - 4.
- Etc

Insert photo of voting on systems map

Please Insert any additional Narrative elements here – e.g. agreements, disagreements, explanations, interpretations novel insights which can help interpret voting

### PLENARY – Reflections and Priorities

1. Reflections on your inquiry (please list)


2. A priority action relating to the subsystem receiving the most votes

- Developing education / learning through playfulness and experimentation
- Improving governance: Improving “governmentality”: Beyond just ‘control’, but also emphasis on feedback and accountability.
- Understanding the world through modelling

**Please make sure you have taken a photo of your table group at some suitable point during day 1 or day 2**

**Insert table group photo here:**

Insert photo of table group



**\*\* Please note: the PhD cohort will meet directly after  
the end of day 2 for a short debriefing \*\***

**THANK YOU!**