

**Mini-Workshop
on creating
Globally Collaborative Network for
Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution (GCN/CPMR)
on Environmental Issues**

DATE and TIME:

July 15 (Tuesday), 2008
1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

LOCATION:

Marc A. Levy
Deputy Director
Center for International Earth Science Information (CIESIN)
Columbia University
61 Route 9W
P. O. Box 1000
Palisades, NY 10964 USA
tel: (+1) (845) 365-8964
cel: (+1) (845)-270-5762
fax: (+1) (845) 365-8922
mlevy@ciesin.columbia.edu
<http://www.ciesin.columbia.edu>

Prepared by
Takeshi Utsumi, Ph.D., P.E., Chairman
GLObal Systems Analysis and Simulation Association in the U.S.A. (GLOSAS/USA)
Laureate of Lord Perry Award for Excellence in Distance Education
Founder and V.P. for Technology and Coordination of Global University System (GUS)
43-23 Colden Street
Flushing, NY 11355-5913, U.S.A.
Tel: 718-939-0928
utsumi@columbia.edu
<http://www.itu.int/wsis/goldenbook/search/display.asp?Quest=8032562&lang=en>
<http://www.friends-partners.org/GLOSAS/>
U.S. Federal Tax Exempt ID: 11-2999676 <<http://tinyurl.com/534gxc>>
New York State Tax Exempt ID: 217837 <<http://tinyurl.com/47wqbo>>

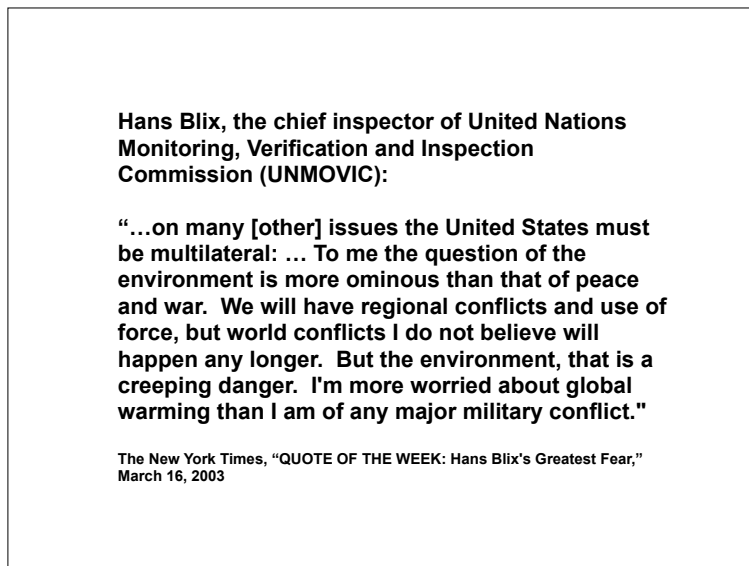
1. PURPOSE:

This meeting is to get acquainted each other for the project to jointly create a **Globally Collaborative Network for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution (GCN/CPMR) on Environmental Issues**, which utilizes the globally distributed gaming/simulation system described in the followings;

- (a) "Globally Collaborative Environmental Peace Gaming (GCEPG) Project"
<http://tinyurl.com/k2c7a>
- (b) "Quantitative Policy Analysis of Global Socio-Economic-Energy-Environment Development (GSEED) Project"
<http://tinyurl.com/337nm>

2. NEEDS:

It is an undisputable fact that the human activities are now causing global warming, which would cause disastrous havoc in the years to come.



For the sake of our future generation, it is an urgent task to start carving such global warming. However, this will inevitably encounter with the conflicts of interests among various stakeholders, e.g., biofuel production vs. food shortage in poor countries, etc., to name but a few.

3. PROPOSED OBJECTIVES:

This project will train local experts for leadership development, in relation to strategic use of technologies and cooperation among stakeholders for more effective advocacy, informed policy, public understanding and participation and concrete community development.

We will then create the Centers for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution (CCPMRs) in various countries, which will be interconnected through broadband Internet for conducting the following two-tier system as utilizing our GCEPG/GSEED project approach mentioned above;

- a. One for training young would-be decision makers for understanding interwoven world phenomena with rational analysis and critical thinking, and then in crisis management, conflict resolution, and negotiation techniques basing on "**facts and figures**" and

- b. The other for helping decision makers constructing a globally distributed decision-support system for positive sum/win-win alternatives to conflict and war.

Each Global University System (GUS) (which is an associating project) <<http://tinyurl.com/sfgm7>> of various countries will maintain the sub-models of their countries autonomously – along with construction and maintenance of its databases, modification of their sub-models, and supply of game players in cooperation with their overseas counterparts through the global Internet. See ANNEX I of <<http://tinyurl.com/337nm>> for the list of partners of this GCEPG/GSEED project – [See also MOU_Polytechnic_GLOSAS (the founder of GUS) <<http://tinyurl.com/6oljpy>>].

4. GEOGRAPHICAL REGION OF CONFLICTS:

- (a) Municipal,
- (b) Provincial,
- (c) In-country, domestic,
- (d) Regional, -- e.g., Post conflict gaming in Balkan region; MEG of Millennium Institute <<http://www.millennium-institute.org>>
- (e) Global, -- e.g., Peace Gaming with Prof. Onishi's FUGI model for the US/Japan Trade Issue at the Second Oil Shock (see its description at the end of "Interview with Takeshi Utsumi" by Parker Rossman <<http://tinyurl.com/fnxxt>>

5. PRINCIPLES OF GAMING/SIMULATION:

- (a) Iron rule of simulation – “**Make simulation as close to simuland as possible,**”
- (b) Greyhound Bus' Motto – “**Leave Driving to Us**”

Both of which necessitates having a globally distributed simulation system.

The basic premise of policy analysis and assessment is “prediction,” which is also the most common denominator of various simulation models. Hence, all of the simulation models (by either System Dynamics, Econometrics, Input-output methodologies, etc.) would produce time-series table.

In order to interlink dispersed, dissimilar simulation models scattered around the world, it would then necessitate to construct;

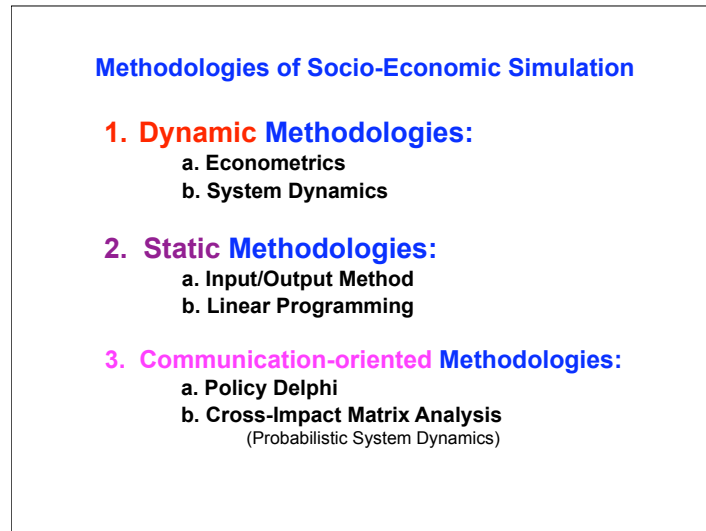
- 1) Table of variables,
- 2) Conversion of units,
- 3) Matching table of exogenous variables among interlinking models, etc.

In essence, the gaming/simulation of this project is;

- a. The models should be autonomously handled **BY** the participating parties,
- b. The models and associating databases should be **OF** the parties,
- c. The results are **FOR** the benefit of the parties.

6. METHODOLOGIES OF SIMULATION:

Followings (but not limited) are major simulation methodologies we will use;



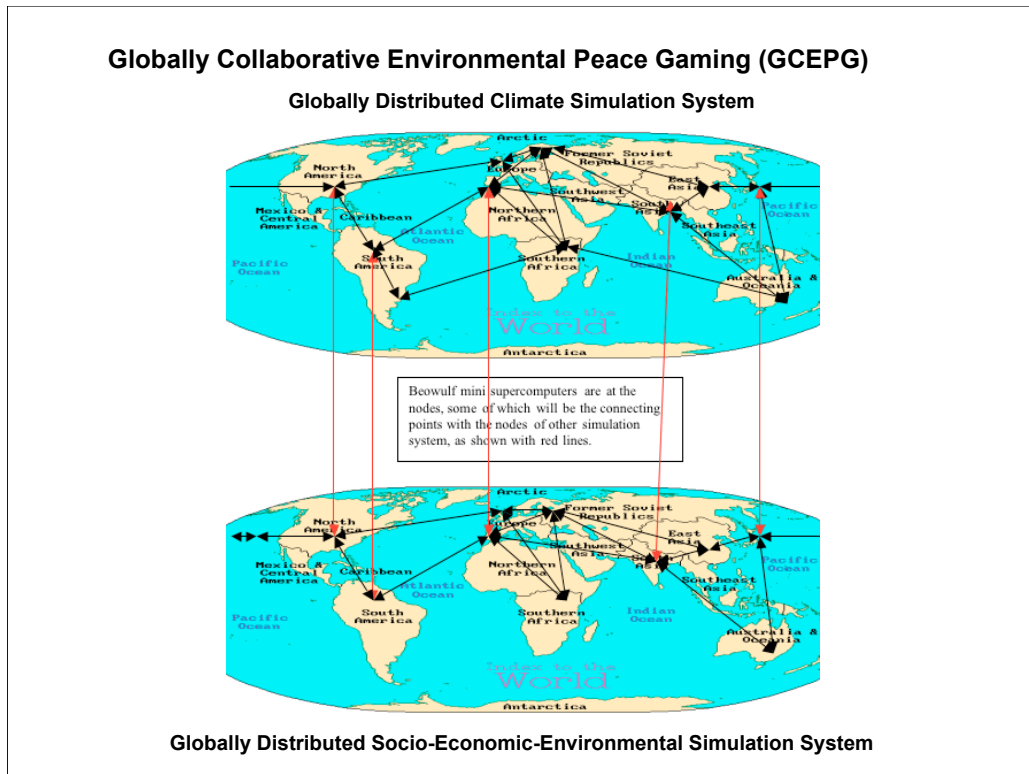
7. UNAVOIDABLE DIFFICULTIES:

- (a) Time difference among participating parties for global gaming/simulation – due to the roundness of globe,
- (b) Latency of slow speed Internet for communicating among distributed simulation models – particularly through geo-synchronous satellite,
- (c) Head-scratching time of game players for democratic decision-making with consensus, etc.

In addition to the above, strangely, there is currently a deep disciplinary division between climatologists and socio-economic-environmentalists preventing close dialogue and cooperation between them – see the following list distribution;

(09/11/07) (1) Need of dialogue between climatologists and sociologists, (2) Possible complementarity of GSEED to One Geology Project
<http://tinyurl.com/5rqvln>

Subsequently, we will firstly construct globally distributed socio-economic-energy-environmental simulation system (GDSEEESS) with a hope that it would later be interlinked with globally distributed climate simulation system (GDCSS).



8. SCHEDULES OF MEETING:

1:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Tak Utsumi: GLOSAS/USA and GUS – to be the coordinator of GCEPG/GSEED projects.
1:30 pm – 2:00 pm	Marc Levy: CIESIN's modeling activities – to guide the environmental activities for the various CPMRs.
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Weishuang Qu: Millennium Institute's modeling activities – to be the center for integrating models of various countries
2:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Harold P. Sjursen: Polytechnic Institute's activities – to be the center of this project for fund raising and accounting, etc. Carl Skelton: Assisting on software development for interconnecting distributed simulation models
3:00 pm – 3:15 pm	Coffee break
3:15 pm – 5:00 pm	Discussions on the Plan of Actions

9. PLAN OF ACTIONS:

Our first milestone of this project is to make the GCN/CPMR as one of the Research and Training Center (RTC) programs of the United Nations University (UNU) with the collaborative efforts of the Earth Institute (EI) of Columbia University, Millennium Institute (MI), New York University/Polytechnic Institute (NYU/PI), GLOSAS/USA, and Global University System (GUS)/UNESCO/UNITWIN Networking Chair Program at the University of Tampere, Finland – see the previous failed attempt in;

Each RTC in various countries will;

- (a) Emulate environmental activities of the EI,
- (b) Emulate modeling activities of the MI,
- (c) Collaborate on GDSEEESS along with GUS.

It may be wise to select countries for inviting and joining into this GCN/CPMR project, e.g., Russia/Siberia, China, Japan, European, Asian and African countries, etc.

10. FUND RAISING:

Step 1: Brief concept paper is to be constructed by GLOSAS/USA, MI, and EI, which will be accompanied by support letters from President Jerry Hultin of NYU/PI, and Prof. Jeff Sachs, Director of the EI, when it will be submitted to the US National Science Foundation and others for their funding inquiries. Upon receiving favorable responses, we will submit formal grant application to them.

This grant will be to;

- (a) Construct software to interface distributed dissimilar gaming simulation models scattered around the world,
- (b) Work out with Ventana Systems, Inc. <<http://www.vensim.com/>> for the revision of Vensim software which is used for constructing models of business, scientific, environmental, and social systems with System Dynamics methodology – this is for Apple/Macintosh/OS X.
- (c) Construct GDSEEESS models of selected countries,
- (d) Conduct of videoconferencing with the Center for CPMR of those countries in cooperation with GUS' colleagues around the world, e.g., a Mexican whose network includes almost all of Latin American countries,
- (e) Conduct of mini-workshop in those selected countries for promoting awareness on global warming environmental issues and preparing for forthcoming associated conflicts,
- (f) Construct initial portion of the administrative network of GCN/CPMR under the auspices of the UNU/RTC.

Step 2: The above document (with some alternations) will also be used for fund raising from the New Eurasia Foundation in Moscow for a large workshop in Novosibirsk, Siberia, Russia (and its nearby Gorno Altaisk) with Global Leadership Forum for the training of civil servants with GDSEEESS project, which is to be held in the spring of 2009 – in cooperation with Siberia Academy for Public Administration (SAPA), Novosibirsk State University, Municipal City of Gorno Altaisk, and Gorna Altaisk State University, etc.

11. POTENTIAL ATTENDEES:

- (a) Columbia University:

Marc A. Levy (**confirmed**)
 Deputy Director
 Center for International Earth Science Information (CIESIN)
 Columbia University
 61 Route 9W
 P. O. Box 1000
 Palisades, NY 10964 USA
 tel: (+1) (845) 365-8964 or 8988 (for his secretary while his absence)
 cel: (+1) (845)-270-5762
 fax: (+1) (845) 365-8922
 mlevy@ciesin.columbia.edu
<http://www.ciesin.columbia.edu>

(b) GLOSAS/USA:

Takeshi Utsumi, Ph.D., P.E., Chairman (**confirmed**)
 GLObal Systems Analysis and Simulation Association in the U.S.A. (GLOSAS/USA)
 Laureate of Lord Perry Award for Excellence in Distance Education
 Founder and V.P. for Technology and Coordination of Global University System (GUS)
 43-23 Colden Street
 Flushing, NY 11355-5913, U.S.A.
 Tel: 718-939-0928
utsumi@columbia.edu
<http://www.itu.int/wsis/goldenbook/search/display.asp?Quest=8032562&lang=en>
<http://www.friends-partners.org/GLOSAS/>
 U.S. Federal Tax Exempt ID: 11-2999676 <<http://tinyurl.com/534gxc>>
 New York State Tax Exempt ID: 217837 <<http://tinyurl.com/47wqbo>>

(c) Millennium Institute:

Hans Rudolf Herren, Ph.D. (**not attending**)
 President
 Millennium Institute
 2200 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 650
 Arlington, VA 22201-3357 USA
 Tel: (+1-703) 841-0048
 Fax: (+1-703) 841-0050
 Cell: (+1-530) 867-4569
hh@millennium-institute.org
hansrherren@mac.com
<http://www.millennium-institute.org>
<http://www.millenniuminstitute.net/>
www.threshold21.com
<http://www.biovision.ch>
<http://www.eduvision.or.ke>

and/or

Weishuang Qu, PhD (**confirmed**)
 Director of Modeling and Analysis
 Millennium Institute

(d) Polytechnic Institute of New York University:

Dr. Harold P. Sjursen (**not confirmed yet**)
 Professor of Philosophy
 Associate Provost for International Education and Research
 Director, Liberal Studies
 Polytechnic University
 5 Metrotech Center
 Brooklyn, New York 11201
 USA
 Tel: 718-260-3597
 Fax: 718-788-4268
 Cel: +1 (917) 743 2390
hsjursen@duke.poly.edu
hsjursen@poly.edu
hsjursen@gmail.com
<http://www.poly.edu/>

Sunil Kumar, Ph.D. (not confirmed yet)
Dean of Graduate School
Associate Provost
Professor of Mechanical Engineering
Polytechnic University
Six MetroTech Center, Rm. RH-102
Brooklyn, NY 11201
Tel: (718) 260-3182
Fax: (718) 260-3624
skumar@poly.edu

Carl Skelton (not confirmed yet)
Director, Integrated Digital Media Institute
idmi.poly.edu
Polytechnic University
Six MetroTech Center, RH 213
Brooklyn, NY 11201
718-260-4018
cskelton@poly.edu

At the worst case, at least, one of them would attend from the NYU/PI, though cannot tell which one yet.