

Foundation Document

Compiled by Anastássios Perdicoulis, 04 September 2002

I.

In accordance with:

(a) the call by Anastássios Perdicoulis, directed to the System Dynamics Society (SDS) members at the 20th International Conference of the SDS in Palermo, Italy, on the 31st of July 2002, ca. 9 am, requesting the expression of interest to create a Special Interest Group (SIG) on Environmental Dynamics that would focus on systems featuring human activities and natural environment (sic),

(b) the satisfactory response by the SDS members,
and

(c) the Report to the SDS Policy Council from the Committee on Special Interest Groups (revision of 06 of July 2002), the present document defines the nature of the SIG on Environmental Dynamics and proposes its creation under the aegis of the SDS.

II.

Scope: Systems that feature both human activities and natural environment (also known as “environmental systems”)

Scale: All scales, in both private and public sectors:

- global
- continental/ supranational
- national
- regional/ local
- company site
- family
- personal

Objective: Investigate the dynamics of the systems of interest, and optimize the study and control methods in such systems.

Strategy:

- Collect specific information about the dynamics of particular systems from case studies
- Draw generalizations (e.g. laws, lessons) about the dynamics of the systems of interest
- Stimulate further research and applications in the systems of interest
- Gather methods and techniques used in the study and/ or control of the systems of interest
- Stimulate and direct methodological and technological advances

III.

The conference participants who have expressed their interest in joining the SIG on Environmental Dynamics by signing the list, and whose signatures have been handed in to the SDS Executive Director on the 31st of July 2002, in Palermo, are:

1. Ali Saysel: ali@ifi.uib.no
2. Anastássios Perdicoúlis: tasso@utad.pt
3. Andy Ford (signed by B. Cavana): forda@mail.wsu.edu
4. Bob Cavana: bob.cavana@vuw.ac.nz
5. Christer Kalen
6. Helen Allison: hallison@central.murdoch.edu.au
7. Jacques Lefèvre: lefevrej@libertysurf.fr
8. Justus Gallati: justus.gallati@seecon.ch
9. Marietjie Vosloo: marietjie.vosloo@sasol.com
10. Matthias Baler
11. Philip Emmi: pceggi@geog.utah.edu
12. Silvia Ulli-Ber: ulli@ikaoe.unibe.ch

The volunteers for the leadership of the group are Anastássios Perdicoúlis and Helen Allison.

In addition to the above, a “Godfather List” has been opened with distinguished SDS members who support the SIG on Environmental Dynamics initiative but are unable to commit themselves to active participation due to complete personal curricula.

1. John Sterman: jsterman@mit.edu
2. Erling Moxnes: erling.moxnes@ifi.uib.no

IV.

The SIG on Environmental Dynamics shall commence its activities once approved by the SDS Policy Council.

V.

The present proposal is to be appreciated by all interested parties.