**Outcomes of the GCF Board Telephone Conference – 25 February 2019**

**Participants:** Carlo Jaeger (Chairman)**,** Manfred Laubichler (Vice-chairman)**,** Yanli Lyu (Member of the Board)**,** Christiane Voelker (MoB),Sarah Wolf (MoB)**,** Konstantin Winter (Guest, *minutes*)

COLLABORATIONS

**Global Futures (Arizona State University)**

**Membership** request by ASU’s **Global Futures** initiative (<https://global.asu.edu/global-futures-initiative>), which is headed by Prof. Peter Schlosser. Its vision is to develop a world-class innovation hub for an international and interdisciplinary alliance of academia, industry, non-profits, etc. to strategically address issues of sustainability.

**Decision Theater I**

Working relationship between **ASU** and **GCF** in regards to ASU’s **Decision Theater** (DT) methodology and GCF’s further development of the methodology has intensified since Carlo’s Arizona visit in January. GCF’s November event at *Haus der Kulturen der Welt* (HKW) has established a DT format that conjoins stakeholder interaction with modeling feedbacks, which already generates new types of research.

**Decision Theater II**

Collaboration with a renowned documentary film and theater team (Andres Veiel) **connects the DT methodology with a creative approach** and is foreseen to be displayed at *HKW*.

**Financial System I and Systemic Risks**

The research on **financial markets and systemic risks** is being advanced by Armin, especially during his ASU visit in March/April (including a case study on the Euro-Dollar).

**Math and MoTMo**

In cooperation with two math/HPC departments (FU Berlin and **Zuse-Institute**), GCF is exploring the potential of using big machines for **modeling complex systems in the social science**s as part of a cluster of excellence for applying new **mathematics** (called “Math+”). Our project within the cluster is about learning reduced models that combine mathematical techniques from the departments and data from GCF’s mobility ABM “MoTMo”.

**MOPGA / Financial System II / Decision Theater III**

Carlo, as individual researcher with GCF affiliation, will be part of the French government’s campaign to fight climate change under the label **Make Our Planet Great Again** (MOPGA). The project will develop an ABM of the global financial system, link it to CIRED’s (Prof. J.-C. Hourcade, GCF member) IMACLIM model on world economy and use it in a DT setting.

**ENavi 2 / Decision Theater IV**

In the follow-up project of the German Kopernikus Project “Energy Transition Navigation System” (**ENavi**), led by IASS (Prof. O. Renn), **GCF’s Decision Theater** (and MoTMo) will play a central role. This consolidates the collaboration with IASS and with big institutions in the German energy and climate debate.

**China connection**

Developing GCF as an officially recognized NGO in China with more impact requires patience. With Yanli as a newly elected board member there is a **continuous connection to Chinese research institutions**. Her research on air pollution, desertification, etc. will be important in this regard. She will share information on Chinese climate policy (main goals, instruments).

GCF TRANSITION

GCF is going through an important transition. With constructing an ABM architecture and combining it with the Decision Theater approach in an innovative way GCF is breaking out of the traditional ways of pursuing knowledge in science, and in this sense is really pursuing its originally formulated mission. The above mentioned collaborations are marking the beginning of a new era in which GCF is becoming increasingly consolidated as a **transdisciplinary research network that discovers opportunities for a global sustainability transition with a focus on climate change and with ABM-based decision theaters as core methodology**. Within this transdisciplinary network GCF creates opportunities for other networks and new researchers to simultaneously engage with traditional research-based institutions and an environment in which research can immediately become relevant for society.

CLIMATE DEBATE

* Three positions in **US**: Trump’s control on federal climate debate, **Carbon Tax** as the one and only measure (see “elite economists”), **Green New Deal** (investment/regulation push, see Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez). The GND discourse is academically weak and the debate is wide open. *What can GCF contribute?*

The US discussion will also have implications on **German climate politics** (new climate law in fall 2019, with one forceful proposal for a carbon tax, and a wary eye on the “Gilets jaunes” movement in France).

* America is better equipped than Europe to make a **connection between climate efforts and financial system**. Here GCF can position itself, particularly with the expertise in modeling the economy and financial systems, to be the bridge between the more climate-science related issues and the financial system. The transformation will cost a lot of money, which means also enormous business opportunities for those willing to take those risks (like large hedge funds). GCF should establish a line of communication to those institutions.
* The **Fridays for Future** movement is an opportunity for GCF to offer the youth some support and a platform.

FOOD 4 THOUGHT

**★ How can I as a GCF member contribute to the discussion on GCF’s future?**

**★ What are possible external communication strategies for GCF’s new development?**

**★ How can we use and enhance GCF’s new visibility (also in relation to attracting new networks and researchers)?**

**★ How can GCF become perceived as a credible partner from leading financial institutions?**

**★ How can GCF give the financial industry a more creative role in the transformation process?**

**★ How can GCF concretely establish some contact with the younger generation (Fridays for Future)?**