



# **tt30 – the young think tank of the Club of Rome**

## **4<sup>th</sup> progress report**

(September 2003 – September 2004)

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October 2004

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The activities reports covering the past 4 years (2001-2004) as well as further information on tt30 are available at [www.clubofrome.org/tt30](http://www.clubofrome.org/tt30)

## 1. What is tt30

### **Mission statement**

tt30, the young think tank of the Club of Rome (CoR), is composed of around 30 independent men and women around the age of 30 who are concerned about the problems of today's world and are committed to working towards solutions to these challenges.

tt30 provides the CoR with the perspective and enthusiasm of the young generation in order to strengthen the position of the CoR as a global, non-governmental catalyst for change. tt30 spreads the ideas and ideals of the CoR into young generations. tt30, from the perspective of the young generation, establishes an agenda of topics that are central to the future development of the world and indicates possible ways to meet those challenges. In all its activities and projects, tt30 is guided by the fundamental principles of the CoR: holistic thinking, taking a global approach and a long-term perspective.

### **Activities**

In the spirit of the mission statement, tt30 is a platform for debate on central issues of concern directly related to the future development of humanity. tt30 summarises these challenges in a "Web of the Problematique" which is regularly being reviewed.

With concrete projects and statements to the public, tt30 focuses on specific issues of the 'Web of the Problematique' and proposes new ways and approaches to dealing with these central challenges.

The impact of tt30's activities is aimed in three directions:

- At the participants by integrating them into a global network of young people committed to working towards a better future;
- At the Club of Rome by providing it with the perspective of young people;
- At the general public by distributing its findings through the tt30 website, media and members networks

### **Structure**

tt30 is a forum provided by the CoR. tt30 works under the supervision of the Secretary General of the Club of Rome and regularly reports to the Executive Committee of the Club of Rome and to the Board of the European Support Centre on its activities and receives their advice. tt30 regularly informs the members of the Club of Rome and its National Associations on its proceedings.

A co-ordinating team prepares the activities of tt30. Currently, this team is composed of Alexandre Linhares (Brazil), Anand R. Shah (India), Baker al-Hiyari (Jordan), Joerg Geier (Germany), Ildiko Tulbure (Romania/Germany) and Tobias Lengsfeld (Switzerland). This team has the administrative support of the staff of the European Support Centre (ESC) of the CoR in Vienna, Austria.

### **Participants**

Participants of tt30 are between 25 and 35 years old. They are selected each year for one-year terms from all former participants and all new candidates by a Selection Group of three CoR members. The decision of this group is based on a recommendation by the Co-ordinating Team. On average, one-fifth of the participants are replaced with new participants each year. Former participants between the age of 36 and 40 may be invited as associates.

Currently, tt30 participants come from Asia, Africa, North and South America, the Middle East and Europe. They are involved in academia, the business sector, international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations.

## **2. From Rome to Amman (September 2003 – September 2004)**

### **2.1. Projects**

The first part of last year's tt30 Annual Meeting (4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> September 2003, in Rome, Italy) was devoted to discussing and advancing the Web project. It was decided to further follow the idea of developing the multidimensional "Web of the Problematique" in order to define tt30's perspective on the World Problematique. Thus, the project working team decided to continue co-ordinating the debate within tt30 on the Problematique and to benefit from this debate. The group decided to apply the method of cross impact analysis (CIA) to the content of the Web, with the purpose of recognising the most important relationships among them. For a review of results of the project work, please refer to section 3.1.1 of this report.

In addition to improving the structure of the Web, the think tank spent the past year contributing and working towards solutions to the challenges identified in the Web. It does so in different ways, covering a very broad range of activities, for example by developing statements, initiating different activities or working on concrete projects. Since the third annual meeting the think tank has contributed to three further projects: "Overcoming Technological Divides" (continuation), "Knowledge Transfer across Cultures: A Comparative Study" and "Short Term Cycles – Acceleration as a Threat to Sustainable Development" (projects launched in 2003). Please refer to sections 3.1.2 to 3.1.4 of this report for further details on these projects.

### **2.2. Making tt30 and its work known to a wider audience**

tt30 understands that it will only contribute to enduring change if its messages and outcomes resulting from its work reach a wider general public. Therefore, making tt30 and its work known to the public is a priority for the think tank.

At the Annual Conference of the CoR in Amman, Jordan, in October 2003, tt30 was given the opportunity to present itself and selected results from two projects ("Web of the Problematique", "Overcoming Technological Divides") to the CoR. In December 2003, tt30 was present at the UN World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in Geneva, Switzerland ([www.wsis.org](http://www.wsis.org)). The Club of Rome organised, together with tt30, a workshop on "Towards a New Age of Information and Knowledge for All". During this workshop tt30 participants gave presentations on three projects: the Web of the Problematique, Technological Divides and Knowledge Transfer. tt30 took advantage of its presence at this global platform to discuss these projects in depth with present members of the CoR and with other participants from all over the world.

Other activities getting our message across included involvement in a debate regarding the Global Marshall Plan Initiative in January 2004. In a keynote speech on "Leadership in a Global Society" in June 2004 in Vienna one of our participants addressed 130 young peers at the Global Young Leaders Summit, sponsored by the Congressional Youth Leadership Council ([www.cylc.org/gyls](http://www.cylc.org/gyls)). Upon invitation of the CoR member Professor Antoni Kuklinski, tt30 provided a chapter on "Analysing Sustainability in the Information Society" for a new book by Prof. Kuklinski.

We realise the importance of speaking in public and welcome suitable activities. For instance, tt30 will be involved in shaping and organising, together with the Club of Rome and UNESCO, next year's conference "Digital World" ([www.digitalworld.org](http://www.digitalworld.org)) in Paris in April 2005.

However, tt30 is aware of its limitations as an actor and in terms of achieving substantial changes on a global level. Therefore, tt30 decided to also stimulate work in accordance with its goals on national levels: tt30 helps the process of building up a global “tt30 network”, national forums of the young generation, i.e. national think tanks 30. Such national tt30’s are already active in Spain and Poland.

tt30 Spain discussed issues concerning global governance and the actual process to reform the United Nations in depth. In a world where the economy is increasingly global, political and judicial institutions are, to a great extent, still national or multi-national. Members of tt30 Spain believe in the importance of advancing towards a globalisation of democratic political structures. This would not mean the disappearance or replacement of national states, but the creation of structures able to deal with issues enhancing the redundancy of national borders. There are four basic elements to this proposal, due to be finished in early 2005: regionalisation (such as UE, ASEAN or Union of African States); shaping a world parliament; creating an executive power with two councils (a security council and a socio-economic council) and courts of justice.

tt30 Germany ([www.tt30.de](http://www.tt30.de)) had its kick-off meeting in Hamburg from 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2004, upon the invitation of the German Chapter of the Club of Rome. The Secretary General of the Club of Rome, Mr Uwe Möller, and the President of the German Chapter of the Club of Rome, Professor Michael Jischa, have been deeply involved in this process, together with other tt30 participants. During the kick-off meeting several projects on a national level have been launched.

Currently there are further efforts under way to build up national forums of the young generation in Brazil and the Arab region.

### **2.3. Selecting tt30 participants**

tt30 pulsates through the activities and involvement of its participants. Therefore, the process of selecting participants is of utmost importance to tt30. To a large extent tt30 relies on proposals for suitable candidates it receives from members of the CoR and its National Associations. Furthermore the tt30 website has proven to be an important tool in the last year. Every week we receive expressions of interest in participation in tt30 through our website from people all around the world.

The selection process is managed by the co-ordinating team, based on a comprehensive dossier that should be submitted by interested candidates. In order to keep the process comprehensible and transparent, these dossiers are evaluated independently by different members of the co-ordinating team following a clear set of criteria, including past involvement in global issues, civil society engagements, professional achievements, motivation, availability for tt30, diversity of the membership, etc. Based on this evaluation, the co-ordinating team submits a recommendation to a Selection Committee of three members of the Club of Rome which makes a final decision on the selection of tt30 participants.

With this procedure, the globalisation of tt30 membership had been advanced further in the past year. In 2004/05 the share of participants from non-OECD countries rose from 33% to 44% compared to the year before. tt30 presently has 27 participants. These participants comprise of 44% from EU countries; 14% from the Arab World; 11% both from North America and Asia; 7% each from Latin America and Non-EU Europe; and 3% from Africa.

### **3. tt30's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting: 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> September 2004, Amman, Jordan**

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of tt30 was held in Amman, Jordan, upon invitation and under the High Patronage of HRH Prince El Hassan bin Talal, President of the Club of Rome, and with the support of his good offices. For the message of HRH Prince El Hassan bin Talal, to the 4th tt30 Annual Meeting, please refer to "[www.clubofrome.org/tt30/intranet/projects/document\\_upload/Message\\_Prince\\_Hassan\\_tt30\\_Sept\\_2004.doc](http://www.clubofrome.org/tt30/intranet/projects/document_upload/Message_Prince_Hassan_tt30_Sept_2004.doc)".

The meeting was hosted by Philadelphia University, a private University in Amman, in whose facilities the meeting was held. Furthermore, the Greater Amman Municipality, the Jordan Tourism Board, the Higher Council for Science and Technology of Jordan, the Royal Institute for Inter-Faith Studies and two private Jordanian citizens generously supported the implementation of the meeting. Sponsorships and the local set-up of the meeting in Amman were co-ordinated by the Jordanian tt30 member Baker al-Hiyari.

From the current 27 tt30 participants, 20 attended the meeting. Several observers attended the meeting upon invitation of HRH Prince El Hassan bin Talal: Professor Usama Khalidi (scientific advisor to HRH Prince El Hassan bin Talal); Dr Hayder Al-Karim and Dr Hayder Shaker from Iraq, Ms Hiba Abdul Latif and Ms Maha Al-Akhal from the Higher Council for Science and Technology of Jordan, Mr Islam Zaater from the National Information Centre of Jordan, as well as several students and graduates from Philadelphia University.

After an introductory meeting for the new participants and an informal get-together of the participants on Monday evening, the meeting officially began on Tuesday with a formal opening meeting. This was followed by a review of the activities of the think tank over the past year, based on status reports from the project teams on the project work during 2003/04. In-depth discussions of the project presentations led to a definition of future goals for the respective project teams (see 3.1. below). The first day ended with a summation of lessons learned over the past working year of tt30. Wednesday started with a plenary brainstorming session on crucial themes which are integral to achieving a better understanding the World Problematique but had been neglected thus far. From this brainstorming, in a series of working group sessions and plenary discussions, the meeting moved towards defining the main themes and new initiatives on which the think tank will focus in the coming year. The decision on future activities was made during a plenary on Thursday morning. Particular emphasis was put on integrating the thematic focus of future activities with the thematic focus of participants' professional orientation. Furthermore, great importance was given to fully capitalise on the participants' diverse backgrounds for each activity. The meeting was concluded by setting the milestones for the coming year and giving feedback on the past three days.

#### **3.1. Results of current projects and outlook**

For further details and some in-depth reports, please refer to [www.clubofrome.org/tt30](http://www.clubofrome.org/tt30).

##### **3.1.1. The Web of the Problematique**

tt30 adopted the World Problematique as the central concept for its work. The think tank considers it as important to provide an agenda of themes that it sees as priorities in a global context from the perspective of the young generation. tt30 presents the results of its discussions in this regard in a graphical format in its "Web of the Problematique". The graphical approach was chosen to highlight the complexity of the Problematique and the interdependence of the issues as well a potential rebound effects. The web can be read as

an agenda, from the perspective of the coming generation, of the central challenges humanity is facing.

The history of the Web of the Problematique is very much intertwined with tt30s' own history. At the first annual meeting in Hamburg in 2001 the idea of the Web was born in a brainstorming session. During the next meeting in Valencia the Web was further shaped and defined; content and form were set and descriptions written. In Rome in 2003 the Web was further improved and interrelations as well as mutual impacts discussed. In September this year tt30 decided to continue with the project as a “backbone” to our work.

Based on themes highlighted in the Web short essays were prepared by tt30 participants and many of the interrelations between these themes were also analysed.

The analysis of the interrelations between the different challenges described in the Web was used by the project team to run a cross-impact analysis. With this method it was possible to identify those themes raised in the Web representing the strongest drivers, i.e. having the strongest influence on positive or negative development of the other aspects raised in the Web. There are still methodological difficulties to be solved. In spite of methodological difficulties to be solved it is expected that a priority list for action can be distilled summarising issues with the greatest potential to foster change permanently.

During the coming months, improving the cross impact analysis as well as further consolidation will be the focus. An enhanced effort will be made to develop the Web further. The creation of scenarios and greater interactivity with the tt30 web page are desired steps.

**Project team:** Ali Vali (USA/India/UAE), Felix Nolte (Sweden), Shahryar Eivazzadeh (Iran), Sylvia I. Karlsson (Sweden), Tobias Lengsfeld (Switzerland)

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### 3.1.2. Overcoming Technological Divides

The project "*Overcoming Technological Divides*" evaluates existing divides in society concerning the use of new technologies and proposes appropriate strategies for overcoming these divides. The project was launched in August 2001 and covers a period of three years. Two main parts define the project.

A comprehensive systematic analysis and a diagnosis of the existing situation in the field of Technological Divides on a global level were carried out. European, African and Latin American regions were given particularly attention in a comparison with the situation in the US and Japan. A careful analysis of the status quo also reveals divides between European societies and between generations within societies. In the case of African countries it was noticed that there are much lower barriers towards accessing and using ICT relative to European countries. The US is the leading provider of IT infrastructure whereas European countries spearhead the mobile phone sector. Concerning African regions divides in the field of energy production, its distribution and use have been also recognised. This was labelled as Energy-related Divide. In Latin American countries there are divides amongst countries but also in comparison with other world regions. Compared globally the Digital Divide in Latin America has another quality relative to the one in African and European countries. It can be concluded that the situation of the leading countries in terms of ICT infrastructure and use in Latin America is similar to the situation of the Eastern European countries. The poorest countries in Latin America can be compared with the middle-income countries in Africa.

There is a general belief, that, by realising the *Information Society for All*, the sustainability of our society will be naturally assured. Contrary to this widespread belief, the results of the project work show that, provided the present ICT usage patterns continue with their trend, sustainability of our society would be questionable. We conclude that, while the development and expansion of the information society is necessary, *it does not* assure per se the sustainability of our society. *Rebound-effects* do, in some cases, distort the positive effects of efficiency increase. Rebound-effects are not only to be expected in the energy-related and environmental arenas, but also in the social and cultural spheres.

*Education* has been found to be the key issue in promoting the proper use of technologies, of ICT and in promoting sustainable development. The project team analysed *education* in a systemic way and recognised three important dimensions of education systems: *infrastructure, methodologies and values*. *Frameworks* (economic, political, social, cultural) are, in our opinion, the binding element between these three dimensions. In order to test their sensitivity with regard to educational processes, we developed a *fuzzy logic-based mathematical model* and ran several simulations in form of scenarios. Conclusions drawn show that the available infrastructure is not the most relevant issue. Moreover, the sphere of values plays a very important role. In the field of environmental education we found out that values are decisive factors. Also educating people for tolerance world-wide vis-à-vis other cultures or traditions is much more important than having very good infrastructure. The goal of the model and scenarios is to help discuss on a scientific basis about what should be made in order to improve educational processes with the common goal of sustainable development.

**Project team:** Pauliina Arola (Finland), Christian Berg (Germany), Alonso Garza (Mexico), Alexandre Linhares (Brazil), Ghanem Nuseibeh (Jerusalem/UK), Milena Raykovska (Slovenia/Bulgaria), Peter-Olav Pleuß (Germany), Ildiko Tulbure (Germany/Romania), Ali Vali (India/UAE), Aleksander Zidansek (Slovenia)

**Co-ordinator:** Ildiko Tulbure (Romania/Germany), Ildiko.Tulbure@tu-clausthal.de

### 3.1.3. Short Term Cycles – Acceleration as a Threat to Sustainable Development

A number of developments in society, economy and personal life are occurring faster and faster. The project started from this intuitive assumption and explored the drivers of these acceleration phenomena. The increasing speed of technological development is such an important driver and a precondition for further acceleration. In particular, the speed by which ICT and transportation technologies link people, communities, businesses and cultures all over the globe sets the framework for “globalisation” to take place. Global competition, in turn, is another driver as being in a market often results in first-mover advantages. Third, in many countries one can detect a youth vs. body delusion – the young and successful are the heroes of our days.

Apart from opportunities that arise from this phenomenon, such acceleration implies significant risks for a sustainable development. The project focussed on these risks. In the economic sphere, short-term thinking often dominates long-term considerations, leaving behind great debts for the generations to come. In the ecological sphere, time scales of anthropogenic impacts on the environment are often far too short to allow for nature’s sustainable reaction. In the social sphere, rapid changes of societies and social structures may contribute to people’s insecurities or anxieties, to the rise of fundamentalist movements, or to corruption and nepotism. Finally, on a personal level people are confronted with new expectations such as life-long learning and continuous mobility and flexibility, often leading to a “corrosion of character” (R. Sennett). In order to decelerate the above mentioned

developments, leverage points to acceleration should be addressed directly. Examples are transportation and financial transactions. Only if the prices for transportations reflect the true social and ecological costs, the market will be able to provide the best distribution of goods. Furthermore, a tax on financial transactions could limit the volatility of markets, which may endanger economic stability. Both measures, however, necessitate international agreements and treaties.

**Project team:** Christian Berg (Germany), c.berg@tt30.de

#### **3.1.4. Knowledge Transfer across Cultures: A Comparative Analysis**

In its project on Knowledge Transfer across Cultures – A Comparative Study, tt30 investigates methods and mechanisms of knowledge transfer between different cultural groups and legal entities, primarily between societies in the north and the south. The project, launched in Rome in 2003, aims at suggesting measures as to impact existing knowledge transfer patterns.

Project group members identified stringent flaws in the way communication, on which knowledge transfer is based, is being conducted. Differences in the nature of personal interaction and in the use of communication mediums pose major cultural disparities. Their contemplation may well provide a roadmap towards better mutual understanding and, consequently, improved knowledge transfer in both directions.

The study opens up with a historical overview of knowledge transfer. Knowledge transfer in an organisational context provides a (largely theoretical) framework helping understand underlying processes and draw conclusions later on. A case study based on the Igbo culture in Nigeria emphasises the "African case" and offers approaches to a more balanced knowledge exchange between north and south. A model for capacity development proposes to learn and innovate based on local partnerships. It thus helps build on and re-invent local knowledge. Regional Innovation Strategies (RIS) are an example for innovative public policy measures. They were identified as a means for enhancing development capacity of regions as well as innovative potential.

Steps ahead include a substantiation of findings: a survey is being developed with the objective to build best practice examples of knowledge transfer.

**Project team:** Ndidi Nnoli Endozien (Nigeria/Germany), Mary Dengler (UK/USA), Inês Almeida Freire (Portugal), Joerg Geier (Germany), Michal Miedzinski (Poland)

**Co-ordinators:** Joerg Geier (Germany), jgeier@gmx.de and Ndidi Nnoli Edozien (Nigeria), nne@uwc.net

### **3.2. New initiatives and projects**

The increased regional diversity of tt30 has opened up the opportunity to develop a more global understanding of the problems which need to be addressed. This year, during the tt30 Annual Meeting in Amman, possibilities were given to adopt new initiatives not only in the form of classical projects. As a result, five new initiatives or projects were instigated as briefly outlined below.

#### **3.2.1. Project on Education: EDUCoR**

The project group recognised that education can be both a solution and a problem with regard to the sustainability of our society. The idea behind this new project is to analyse the

relationship between educational systems and their influencing factors. Nowadays, such influences are not well known, chiefly because of a lack of understanding of such relationships. One way to analyse interconnections is to use data correlations. Although there are a lot of data in the education-related fields (technical, economic, social, cultural), these data are not properly used to improve the understanding of different educational systems all over the world.

The goal of the project is to find out what are the most significant influencing factors *of* and *on* education systems by taking into account different aspects: economic, social, demographic, ecological, political and cultural. In order to describe education systems, five important elements have to be taken into account: infrastructure, content, values, methodologies and human resources. These ones should be analysed for different world regions in order to better understand educational systems and to find ways on how to improve them.

The project will have three parts: in the first part the most relevant indicators will be chosen; in the second part correlations will be made by using data sets; and in the third part interpretations of diagrams and conclusions will be delivered.

**Project team/co-ordinators:** Roland Burger (Italy), roland@burger.it and Ildiko Tulbure (Romania/Germany), ildiko.tulbure@tu-clausthal.de

### 3.2.2 Redefining Leadership

The vision of this project is to reconstruct the public's perception of leadership, expanding the traditional definition to include leadership in everyday life, driven by universally-held values. The project aims to influence the future development of leaders by linking their qualities and values to both process and outcomes. The core question of this project is: What do people value in a leader? And the core assumption is: Mutual values lead to a unified vision and more effective leadership across society.

The mission of the project is to create a generic framework for leadership, based on real scenarios, which highlights common standards and best practices for leadership on individual, family, societal, and governmental levels. The project group's goal is to reconstruct the public perception of how we view leadership and what societal values encourage leadership. While there may be no universal definition of a great leader, mutual values lead to common vision and by helping identify these values we will be supporting the development of a more nurturing environment to guide the advancement of current and future leaders. People should have the capacity to integrate larger societal goals like sustainable living and peace into their daily lives.

This project will consist of three parts: 1. Broad surveys identifying mutually-held or universal values; 2. Analysing the relationships between values, skills, experience, and aspirations emerging from ideal leadership qualities; 3. Proposing a framework, a simple lens by which to look at leadership and institutions that can be applied to all social structures (family, business, government, etc.).

**Project team:** Anand Shah (India), Rawaa Al Saadi (Syria), Inês Almeida Freire (Portugal), Joerg Geier (Germany), Michal Miedzinski (Poland)

**Co-ordinator:** Lockey White (USA/The Netherlands), lockeyelizabeth@yahoo.com

### 3.2.3. Thematic Working Group on Brain Drain

The issue of brain drain is a complex, multifaceted one. Brain drain refers to massive outflows of highly talented people from a number of origin countries to a number of

destination countries. As there are substantial wealth disparities amongst nations, it could hardly be the case that people with the greatest talents would not be strongly attracted to countries that value these very talents. For example, a recent study has estimated that the country of Jamaica must educate five medical doctors in order to retain a single one.

Brain drain is a question between the valuable and the valued: It is very natural for highly skilled workers, entrepreneurs, artists and scientists, to be attracted to places where their work is most highly valued; these places, however, are not necessarily the places where their work could be most valuable. On the other hand, these outflows also provide a number of important benefits, such as an increased understanding of other cultures, religions, traditions, and, economically, there are large financial remittances that emigrants usually send to their original countries. Economists have also pointed out that, due to the possibility of migration to more prosperous places, young people from many poor nations find inspiration and concentration to invest numerous years of their lives in acquiring complex skills and higher education. So there are numerous issues involved in a thorough understanding of this phenomenon. Some of these issues are clearly positive, in the sense of helping create a more balanced world; others seem to increase the disparities.

In the context of this theme the intention is to study scientific literature and to provide a set of policy proposals intended to minimise the detrimental sides of brain drain, while striving to maximise the positive sides of this key driver of global change. The foremost goal is not to collect primary data, but to delve into the policy issues involved more deeply. The intention of this initiative is to examine how humanity as a whole may be able to find ways of overcoming scientific divides, but from points of view other than the tt30 project on “Overcoming Technological Divides”.

**Working team:** Alexandre Linhares (Brazil), linhares@fgv.br, together with the projects teams “Overcoming Technological Divides” and “Knowledge Transfer”

#### **3.2.4. Thematic Working Group on Renewable Energy Technologies (RET)**

The idea of undertaking a study of renewable energy technologies (RET) comes in the light of recent warnings as for instance by the British Prime Minister that global warming will be the most serious challenge to face mankind in the coming decades. Renewable energy is important in addressing the issue of not only global warming, but also the sustainability of energy consumption and supply. Questions have recently been raised about the viability of renewable energy as an alternative to conventional energy sources. The proposal is to undertake a comprehensive study of the global situation with regards to existing RET's and assess the potential contribution of RET's to the world energy markets and the impact of RET's on the environment.

The first phase of the project involves a review of existing RET's and their contribution to the different regions of the world. It is suggested to divide the world into clusters where different RET's are being used or have the potential of being used and discuss the challenges that face particular RET's within these clusters. At a later stage, an assessment of the relative impact and potential of various RET's is suggested followed by an environmental assessment and assessment of different scenarios.

This work will be closely related to the “Overcoming Technological Divides” project, so that common results can be used in the future.

**Working team:** Ghanem Nuseibeh (Jerusalem/UK), ghanem.nuseibeh@atkinsglobal.com, together with the project team “Overcoming Technological Divides”

### 3.2.5. Letters to the future

tt30 consists of highly talented individuals: participants all have different backgrounds, based on their nationalities, cultures, religious beliefs, experience and opinions. This initiative tries to use this potential not in a scientific or analytical way, but with a very subjective approach attempting to grasp this diversity. The method is to collect, with a very personal touch, members' worldviews: what do they think about our current situation and what do they hope for and dream of in the future.

For this collection each participant is going to contribute a chapter in form of a letter looking ahead into the future (in accordance with the CoR spirit). Based on our approach the project was given the name "Letters to the Future". The big value added of this compilation is its independence, its personal orientation and the potential publicity that tt30 may be able to attain.

**Working team:** Sylvia I. Karlsson (Sweden), Milena Raykovska (Slovenia/Belgium), Carlos Rodríguez (Spain)

**Co-ordinator:** Carlos Rodríguez (Spain), [crosal@unavarra.es](mailto:crosal@unavarra.es)

## 4. Outlook

tt30's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting constitutes a major landmark for the development of young the think tank of the Club of Rome. For the first time tt30 participants met outside of Europe. This is reaffirming the global and international potential and out look of tt30. The meeting was a crowning achievement of the group's hard work over the past years. It also constitutes a major turning point towards greater output orientation.

The think tank will continue its process of reviewing and debating the World Problematique from the perspective of the young generation throughout the entire year. The effective and pragmatic contributions towards the Resolutique remain at the heart of our work. Equally important are tt30's contributions and young perspectives as an input to the Club of Rome and its work.

During the past four years, tt30 has strongly pursued an analytical approach in its projects based on scientific research and methodologies. This approach will further continue in the future. However, in order to fully exploit the potential inherent in the variety of professional experiences as well as diversity of personalities in our membership, tt30 decided complement its analytical project work with other non-scientific initiatives. The new initiative "Letters to the Future" aims at capitalising on the strong dynamics and richness derived from the broad variety of participants. Their multicultural backgrounds and local expertise allow for a compilation of "personal stories" based on very individual perspectives. Simplicity and relevance should be the distinctive characteristics of the planned output and results.

In order to keep up its multilayered perspective, level of contributions, lively visions and constant vibrancy, tt30 will concentrate on further diversifying its membership. The wealth of the think tank comes from the diversity and energetic dynamism of its members and the variety of backgrounds and experiences.

tt30's work is going to continue using all possible and available communication and exchange resources; the think tank relies on virtual meetings and exchanges. tt30 is eager to publish and disseminate the results of its work.

Realising the importance of enhancing the network of organisations and personal contacts for the continuity of tt30, more attention will be directed towards interaction and exchange with potential partner organisations in the fields of publications, information, research and the possibility of joint projects. Strengthening the growing network of national and regional tt30 initiatives is an important element in this process.

The sponsorship, support, passion and progressive thinking of the members, associations, secretariat and leadership of the Club of Rome remain to be tt30's main source of inspiration and enthusiasm. The relationship with the CoR will continue to grow and prosper; more valuable and qualitative interaction, advice and partnership will be targeted.

Every opportunity available will be used to create more awareness of tt30 and acknowledgement of its work; an active and consistent presence in and contribution to available forums and the media will be pursued. This process is highly important for the continuity of tt30.

This position may be perceived as very ambitious. It comes from the understanding and realisation that a holistic, ambitious, long-term action plan is needed to secure a sustainable, effective, and continuously productive process.

## **Annex 1: Programme of the 4<sup>th</sup> tt30 Annual Meeting**

13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> September 2004, Philadelphia University, Amman, Jordan

### **13<sup>th</sup> September 2004**

- All Day Arrival of participants to Amman, Jordan
- 4.30 PM Optional visit to Jerash
- 5:00 PM Introductory meeting for new participants (closed session)  
Old members use time to prepare and organise their presentations.
- 8:00 PM Informal dinner

### **14<sup>th</sup> September 2004**

- 10:00 AM Arrival at Philadelphia University
- 10:15 AM Meeting with the principles of Philadelphia University
- Greetings by the President
  - Greetings and thanks on behalf of tt30
  - A short introduction to the university and its activities
  - Discussion
- 11:00 AM *Coffee break and informal discussion*

### **Opening of the meeting**

- 11:30 AM Internal introductory meeting for all members (closed session)
- Welcome to Amman and introduction of participants
  - Presentation of goals and programme of the meeting
  - tt30 activities 2003/04
  - Discussion
- 1:00 PM *Lunch break, free time*

### **Presentation of work done (open to the public from Philadelphia University)**

- 2:45 PM Presentation project results I: Web of the Problematique
- 3:15 PM Discussion
- 3:45 PM Presentation project results II: Acceleration Threat to Sustainable Development
- 4:15 PM Discussion
- 4.45 PM *Coffee break*
- 5:15 PM Presentation project results III: Knowledge Transfer across Cultures
- 5:45 PM Discussion
- 6:15 PM Presentation project results IV: Overcoming Tech Divides
- 6:45 PM Discussion
- 7:15 PM Closing arguments, lessons learnt, conclusions for future work (closed session)
- 8:00 PM Dinner hosted by Philadelphia University

**15<sup>th</sup> September 2004** (closed sessions all day)

9:30 AM Arrive at Philadelphia University

**Challenges of the Problematique and future thematic domains of concern to tt30**

9.45 AM Introduction to programme of the day and next phase of meeting; discussion

10:15 AM *Coffee break*

10.30 AM Open brainstorming on the most important challenges of the Problematique from perspective of participants and grouping of these challenges into clusters that are the starting point for the TWG's in the afternoon

1:00 PM *Lunch break, free time***Thematic Working Groups (TWG)**

2.30 PM Introduction of next phase of meeting

3.00 PM TWG session 1: Definition of thematic domains of concern and interests, most important aspects according to group opinion, potential approaches and goals

5.30 PM Feedback session 1: Short presentation of each TWG (5' each), feedback from plenary

6:30 PM Dinner at the Dead Sea Hotel, hosted by the Higher Council for Science and Technology

**16<sup>th</sup> September 2004** (closed sessions all day)

9:30 AM Arrival at Philadelphia University

**Thematic Working Groups (cont.)**

9.30 AM Introduction to programme of the day

9.45 AM TWG session 2: Preparation of working agenda for the TWG's for the coming year according to established goals for the next year

11:45 AM *Coffee break*

12:00 AM Feedback session 2: Conversation with CoR member and Jordanian advisors: Short presentations of TWG's interim results (5' each); hear CoR's opinions and suggestions; plenary discussion

1:30 PM *Lunch break, free time*

3:00 PM TWG session 3: TWG's finalise definition their working agendas for the group for the coming year; prepare presentation to plenary

6:00 PM *Coffee break***Wrap up**

6:30 PM Closing session

Evaluation of the meeting; financial report 2003/04; internal structure changes/ suggestions and working way of tt30 during the next year; Co-ordinating Team 2004/05, composition and organisation; regional tt30 chapters; tt30 Annual Meeting 2005

8:00PM Dinner hosted by HE the Lord Mayor of the Greater Amman Municipality

## **Annex 2: Participants of tt30 – the young think tank of the Club of Rome**

Status as of 28<sup>th</sup> September 2004

<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Country of Origin/Residence</b>
Mr Aleksander Zidansek*	38	Slovenia
Mr Alexandre Linhares**	33	Brazil
Mr Anand R. Shah**	27	India
Mr Ali Vali	30	India / UAE
Mr Alonso Gaza Zorrilla	28	Mexico
Mr Baker Al-Hiyari**	33	Jordan
Mr Bill Boos	29	USA
Mr Carlos Rodriguez Casal	33	Spain
Mr Christian Berg*	36	Germany
Ms Christiane Ploetz	34	Germany
Mr Felix Nolte	32	Sweden
Mr Ghanem Nuseibeh	27	Jerusalem / UK
Ms Ildiko Tulbure**	34	Romania / Germany
Ms Inês Almeida Freire	32	Portugal
Mr Joerg Geier**	29	Germany
Mr Jonás de Miguel Gómez	30	Spain
Ms Lockey E. White	30	USA / The Netherlands
Ms Mary Dengler	30	USA / UK
Mr Michal Miedzinski	28	Poland / Belgium
Ms Milena Raykovska	28	Bulgaria / Slovenia
Ms Ndidi Nnoli Endozien	32	Nigeria
Ms Pauliina Arola	31	Finland
Mr Peter Olav Pleuß	31	Germany
Ms Raawa Al Saadi	30	Syria
Mr Rolando Burger	35	Italy
Ms Safa Jafari	29	Jordan
Mr Shahryar Eivazzadeh	29	Iran
Ms Sylvia I. Karlsson	33	Sweden
Mr Tobias Lengsfeld**	33	Switzerland

\* tt30 associate participant

\*\* Member of the Co-ordinating Team