Complexity, Policy and Agents

International Workshop of the CAVES Project, 23 April 2008, Manchester

The one-day workshop on complexity, policy and agents took place on 23 April 2008 in Manchester as part of the final project meeting of CAVES. Its aim was to disseminate the knowledge gained in the CAVES project and make it available to stakeholders. These are policy makers and analysts involved with the three case studies in Scotland, Poland and South Africa.

To set the context, the workshop started with presentations about the three different case studies and their relationship to stakeholders. This included two short videos, one outlining policy-relevant issues in the South Africa case study and the other detailing the *Agro Game*, a computer-based role-playing game used for model validation in the Odra case study, which involved stakeholders (farmers).

This was followed by a session describing and demonstrating the models developed for the respective case studies, including a presentation and discussion of the results achieved.

In the afternoon, Scott Moss and Tom Downing led a discussion on principled modelling stakeholder/policy issues. This was instigated by presentations by each speaker, Scott Moss representing the scientific/modelling community and Tom Downing representing the policy community. The participants agreed that genuine companion modelling, i.e. modellers and stakeholders developing a model together, is not feasible. Nonetheless, with evidence-based models like the ones developed in the CAVES project, stakeholder participation in the process of model validation is indispensable.

The workshop was concluded with a presentation on complexity, resilience and challenges of interdisciplinary science by Piotr Magnuszewski.

List of Speakers

Tom Downing, SEI Oxford (UK)
Andrzej Dunajski, Wroclaw University (Poland)
Andreas Ernst, CESR Kassel (Germany)
Nick Gotts, Macaulay Institute (UK)
Piotr Magnuszewski, Politechnika Wroclawska (Poland)
Scott Moss, Manchester Metropolitan University (UK)

List of Participants

Iqbal Adjali, Unilever Corporate Research (UK)

Shah J. Alam, Manchester Metropolitan University (UK)

Mercedes Bleda, Manchester University (UK)

Tom Downing, SEI Oxford (UK)

Andrzej Dunajski, Wroclaw University (Poland)

Michael Elbers, CESR Kassel (Germany)

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Grzegorz Holdys, Politechnika Wrocławska (Poland)

Friedrich Krebs, CESR, Kassel (Germany)

Karolina Krolikowska, Wroclaw University (Poland)

Luis Izquierdo, University of Burgos (Spain)

Piotr Magnuszewski, Politechnika Wrocławska (Poland)

Ruth Meyer, Manchester Metropolitan University (UK)

Scott Moss, Manchester Metropolitan University (UK)

Dan Olner, Leeds University (UK)

Jan Sendzimir, IIASA (Austria)

Richard Taylor, SEI Oxford (UK)