

Elk Coast Institute for Mindful Sustainable Innovation

ECIMSI

-Introduction By Dr. Peter Eisenberger-

From Concepts to Action

The transition from the Holocene Era to the Anthropocene Era like all previous geological transitions involves fundamental changes between the planet and the life that it supports. In general terms the Anthropocene transition involves humans changing from adapting to the future to designing it. Human action is expressed via the decisions made which in turn are based upon knowledge and values that are implemented via its institutions.

The ECIMSI will address all three components, Knowledge, Values, and Implementation and will produce both new ideas and capabilities and nurture their transition to action. A distinctive feature of ECIMSI is its commitment to have real impact on both ideas and their transformation into impact.

One can start with the basic ideas put forth by Dr. Graciela Chichilnisky for a new economic system needed in the Anthropocene that values properly the impact of our actions on privately produced public goods- our air, our water, our biodiversity. Her ideas integrate the critical role of knowledge in the Anthropocene and the need to replace patents, the foundation of competitive capitalism, with forced (compulsory) licenses that seek to maximize implementation. The key to addressing the challenges posed by the Anthropocene is for our innovations to be designed to help us live in harmony with our planet and one another. Eisenberger has focused on the impact of the transition on the process of innovation. In his analysis the heroic scientist is replaced by a multidisciplinary team that are cooperating in an open source format to create the knowledge and technology needed to design our future. It is purposeful with the objective that both humans and our planet prosper by aligning what we do so it is both good for our species and good for the rest of life on our planet. This is *mindful innovation*.

The critical feature that guides all decisions are our values and the two ones that serve as the foundation for our actions are Compassion and the Golden Rule. Knowledge has always had the capacity to be used for good or evil and more powerful knowledge can create more powerful good and destruction. Clearly in our competitive Darwinist past our knowledge was used both to meet our needs as well as to achieve hegemony over others both economically and literally. In our Anthropocene era the goal to meet our needs remains but to do so in a way that creates harmony between us and with our planet. The key clearly is to integrate the new values into the knowledge generation, innovation, and implementation process.

ECIMSI will ---

1) foster the recognition for the need to shift to the new paradigm for innovation for the Anthropocene by sharing the concepts in the presence of the majestic beauty of nature at

the Elk Coast Institute rather than the highly technocratic environment in which human technology is conceived and implemented.

2) facilitate the design of technology to address what the humans and the planet need within a framework of compassion and the Golden Rule provided by the institute by bringing together earthling innovators of the future with those that have done it in the past with input from those with expertise on values and culture in the presence of majestic nature.

3) support an open source network to bring the diverse skills to bear needed to innovate and go from design to a working prototype successfully including access to the facilities, legal and financial support needed in particular with the (IP) created being owned by the Elk Coast Institute that will practice the use of forced licenses in making it available to all who wish to use it

4) support the creation of new ventures and institutions that emerge as important for the successful implementation and dispersion of the new capability created by Mindful Sustainable Innovation

The ECIMSI will support a network that connects all Earthling innovators together facilitating the exchange of knowledge, ideas, and knowhow in support of its activities. It will seek philanthropic support but hopes to become self-sustaining via the revenue from its share of the forced licenses for the technology it nurtured. It will help instill the values of compassion and the golden rule that provide the foundation for mindfulness by offering information about and access to the many alternative paths to achieving it. The one common feature is the connection to the majesty of nature as both a spiritual force and a reminder of the beauty we are working to protect.