

30 August 2014

## **NAVIGATING *CURRENT PERSPECTIVES***

The number of *CURRENT PERSPECTIVES* has grown to the point that assistance in navigation may be required. The following material provides an orientation to the *PERSPECTIVES* that can be accessed from the *CURRENT PERSPECTIVES* page.

The Current Perspectives are **numbered**. When the Current Perspectives were first **numbered** in November 2011, the first 25 Perspectives were **numbered** in the order that appeared most useful at that time. Starting with #26, the Perspectives are **numbered** in the order posted. The Current Perspectives are **posted** in inverse chronological order (newest first) but are **numbered** in chronological order with the exception of a few among the first 25 that were added to provide comprehensive coverage.

The *CURRENT PERSPECTIVES* are also **dated**. When a Perspective is **revised**, the Perspective retains the number and position on the web page to simplify access and cross referencing by **number**.

The **date** of all material on this page, and the material linked from this web site, is of significance. The **date** allows readers to track the evolution of theories, principles, axioms, strategies and tactics over the past four plus decades.

The evolution of human settlement patterns is a complex activity. The information on this sphere of activity is rapidly evolving. When material related to the work of SYNERGY / E M Risse is updated, new and newly relevant information is added. In most cases the Vocabulary in an updated Perspective has been modified to reflect the then current edition of GLOSSARY.

To date, no Perspective – nor any major tenant of *THE SHAPE OF THE FUTURE* (through the 4<sup>th</sup> printing) or *TRILO-G* (through version Beta 2) – has needed to be retracted or abandoned. Errors and mistakes have been corrected, often thanks to the careful review of readers. However, these changes have not altered the fundamental positions presented in the earlier versions. For an example of the type of changes made, see Chapter 34 of *TRILO-G* “Dialogue With Farmah – Hard Questions About Living and Working in the Countryside.”

In addition to **numbering** and **date**, the Perspectives can be referenced by **Function**, **Sphere** and **Scale**.

The **Function** of a Perspective can be sorted into one of the three categories established by the three Volumes of *TRILO-G* :

**Foundations**

**Bridges**

**Action**

As to **Sphere**, most *CURRENT PERSPECTIVES* can also be sorted by the Sphere of human activity (economic, social and physical plus overlaps) based on Chapter 4 Box 2 of *THE SHAPE OF THE FUTURE*.

The **Scale** of the Perspectives can be sorted into three broad categories derived from the New Urban Region Conceptual Framework articulated in *THE SHAPE OF THE FUTURE* and articulated in subsequent publications of SYNERGY. The three broad categories of **Scale** are:

‘**global**’            planet-wide / multi-continent / continent

‘**REgional**’        MegaRegion / New Urban Region / SubRegion See Note 1

‘**COmmunity**’        Alpha and Beta status of COmmunity / Village / NEighborhood / CLuster / DOoryard / UNit

The Capitalization of the words and phrases of the **Scale** components follows the conventions established in GLOSSARY linked from the *RESOURCES* page of this site. GLOSSARY also includes the definitions of the words and phrases that may appear to have irregular capitalization.

Starting with *CURRENT PERSPECTIVE # 34* the Vocabulary used to identify organic components of human settlement patterns which may be confusing because there is no good substitute for frequently uses terms start with Double Capitals: COmmunity, Village, NEighborhood, CLuster, DOoryard and UNit. See End Note Three of *CURRENT PERSPECTIVE # 34*.

Note 1.            As suggested in *TRILO-G*, PART FOUR and in Chapter 27 of PART EIGHT, “Urban Support Regions” referred to in *THE SHAPE OF THE FUTURE* have now evolved to become New Urban Regions or to become components of New Urban Regions.