# **Data Sonification Canvas**

1 Use Case: Who are your users, what are the goals and the context of your sonification?

2 Mapping Choices: How do you map data parameters to sound parameters?

### Users

Who are the users of your sonification? What rold do they have in relation to the phenomenon? Do they have a specific opinion about it? Do they have any specific competence or knowledge of the phenomenon? How much are they affected by the phenomenon?

#### Goals

What are the specific goals you want to achieve with the sonification? Which specific needs does it address? Is it for analysis, explanation, communication, advocacy...

#### Context

In which context will the sonification be experienced? Is it a web application? Is it used in a security operations center or in a public venue? Is it played through headphones or speakers? Is it a global or a local project? Does it have any specific cultural connotations?

## **Type of Sounds**

Synthesised: are the sounds generated with a synthesizer? Is it intended to mimic an existing sound? Concrete: is the sound from nature or from human activities? Is it sourced from analogue musical

### **Behaviour**

What are the rules that link changes in the dataset to changes in the sounds?

# **Functions**

Indexical: is sound directly produced by the phenomenon you want to represent? Iconic: is sound similar to the phenomenon you want to represent? Symbolic: is sound arbitrarily related to the phenomenon you want to represent?

Indexical: the intensity of rain is detected by listening to the sound it emits. Iconic: the intensity of rain is mimicked by the sound of rice grains falling on a surface. Symbolic: the intensity of rain is represented by the sound of different musical instruments.

# **Multi-modality**

Are you using only sound or is sound coulpled with other sensory modalities?

# **Analytical**

Are you representing hard values from a dataset?

### **Narrative**

Do you want to communicate a message or tell a story?

#### Causal

Will they gather information on the phenomenon that produced the sounds?

e.g. when you tap a container and the sound it makes give you information on how full it is.

### **Semantic**

Will they apply a code to interpret the sounds?

e.g. when you need to apply Morse code to decipher the message contained in a sound

### Reduced

Will they focus on the sound itself and its inner characteristics?

e.g. when we distinguish the interval between two notes or the pitch of a bridsong.