



F U T U R E S

M A N I F E S T O

An anthology of 2050 positive, post-pandemic futures by the global network of Next Generation Foresight Practitioners

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May 2020,

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WORLD MAP



CANADA

New governance, smart cities, self agency

USA

De-urbanisation & housing, sustainable living, borderless world, economic democracy

WALES

Rights of future generations, mental health, green recovery & biodiversity, climate change

UNITED KINGDOM

Community innovation & citizen engagement, digital transformation

NETHERLANDS / THE WORLD

Sustainable living & circular economy, borderless world, EU leadership, digital transition, new work, futures literacy

EUROPE / THE WORLD

Multilateralism, digitalization, new work

NIGERIA

Future of Africa, education & learning, national identity, health systems, time travel

SOUTH AFRICA

Future of Africa, economic transformation & entrepreneurial innovation, public service delivery

INDIA

Mobility, transport, robotics/AI, human centered design, integrated networks, global identity

BANGLADESH

Participatory governance & citizen engagement, collective visioning & 'tomorrowlands', education

AUSTRALIA

Ontological shifts, non-human agency, more-than-human worlds, futres of design

INTRODUCTION

The current COVID-19 crisis has led us to question many of our economic, political and social paradigms. More than before, there are critical uncertainties staring at us and our near-term future feels less stable than ever. The crisis has not only exposed the fragility of our current systems, but also made clear that post-2020 realities cannot be built on the old status quo. What will be the new normal and how can we better prepare for a context of growing global risk and shock? How do we exist in a way that is more aligned with our planetary boundaries?

Much has been written about post-COVID-19 scenarios and how the world could look once the crisis is overcome. Many of the analyses take a rather bleak outlook at the future(s) that might unfold. This manifesto takes somewhat a different approach. By using foresight techniques such as storytelling, backcasting and immersion, it brings together a collection of 12 personal short stories from young foresighters from the School of International Futures' Next Generation Foresight Practitioners network (NGFP).

The stories can be read as positive reflections on the current crisis and its repercussions for a post-COVID 19 world. The authors and contributors represent young voices from a diverse range of countries/regions as well as professional and personal backgrounds. They all share the view that a future-informed, participatory approach to planning is now critical for improving outcomes in the years to come – especially in times of tumult and transition.

Each of the stories focuses on 2-3 long-term, systemic shifts that are expected to shape the future. These include shifts such as education & learning, rights of future generations, self agency, futures literacy; health systems including mental health; economic transformation, circular economy/green recovery, entrepreneurial innovation, and new work/jobs; public service

delivery, participatory governance, citizen engagement and community innovation; mobility and transport; digital transformation, robotics, AI and human design; national identity, borderless world, EU leadership, future of Africa, global governance and multilateralism; biodiversity, sustainable living, smart cities, de-urbanisation and housing.

While many of us are adapting to new realities and living 'at a distance', the crisis has also given impetus to a new wave of solidarity. We start to feel more closely connected as a species than before. Our governments' short-term responses to disruption and the way our communities and countries absorb this shock may differ, but history tells us that major conflict and crisis is always a precursor to widespread and longer-term, systemic change. This is one of the underlying key messages of this manifesto: the current crisis is an opportunity to learn from past mistakes and create better, more sustainable futures.

We therefore invite you to look beyond the imminent disruption and mid-term transition, to 2050 futures in which new social, economic and political systems have solidified. We invite you to step out of 2D models and frameworks, and absorb these richer representations of change. Let yourself be inspired by these positive change stories and let your creativity unfold to start working toward a better tomorrow today.

**COLLECTION OF POSITIVE
CHANGE STORIES:**

THE

FUTURE IN

2050





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Nigeria in 2050 - The Nation that Saw

by Adeiye Oluwaseun-Sobo

Systemic shifts (key words): *Future of Africa; Education & Learning; National identity*

Kemi (pronounced as spelt) grabbed her briefcase from the passenger seat of her car and strode purposefully in her red patent 3-inch heels towards the entrance of the Ministry of Education for her 10am meeting with the Minister. They could have had this meeting virtually, as most meetings were held, but this was extremely important and some discussions regardless of technological advancements are best had face to face. Especially when what was being discussed had been years in the making.

She walked in the doors, went through security and up the elevator to the Minister's floor where she swiped her access card to get in. Just as she stepped in, she set eyes on one of the most joyful sights- an old pupil turned colleague. Chuka. He was in her class in Grade 1 many years ago when

the reforms started in the education sector.

After many years of pressure groups demanding improvements in the education sector, the world faced a pandemic- Covid-19- that accelerated the education landscape of the world. With borders closed and ease of traveling to acquire a degree limited, our politicians were forced to listen to what the experts and private sector had been demanding.

For years they had refused to answer the question "Who is Nigeria as a nation?" The fabric of who they were and who they wanted to be lay tattered in the laundry basket of the world till that year decades ago when they made the decision to determine who they were. That one decision changed the fabric of the nation. That

one decision opened an avenue for reforms in the education sector as their 'why' and 'who' as a nation was critically woven into their curriculum.

And today, at the meeting with the Minister, which Chuka was present for to share his new technology, education representatives from around the world were getting on a video call. The topic: how a country like Nigeria with a population of over 200 million people and over 13 million out of school children and millions more in schools providing sub-par education, in that year, could move to less than that 5000 out of school children and the best standards and curricular the world over. How a country where citizens left in droves to seek education outside its shores has become one of the preferred for world-class education!

In that moment as with many moments before and hopefully many after, Kemi was proud to be Nigerian. She was honoured to have been a part of that change. She was grateful for what the

pandemic forced them to accept and do. She was excited to see the manifestation of years of hard work and carefully guarding the vision of a nation.

Many had predicted a bleak future, but against all odds, the nation had prevailed - rising from the ashes to become a beacon of hope.

What a time to be alive!

Adeiyé Oluwaseun-Sobo, Nigeria, NGFP special award Africa, 2019 - Adeiyé is an educator with an interest in Foresight with an emphasis on Futures Literacy. She came into the field through UNESCO's "Imagining Africa's Futures" Project. She is eager to see how the principles of foresight can be infused into curricula across her home country.

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“For years they had refused to answer the question ‘Who is Nigeria as a nation?’ The fabric of who they were and who they wanted to be lay tattered in the laundry basket of the world till that year decades ago when they made the decision to determine who they were.”



Nigeria in 2050 - Back from the Brink

by Oluwabunmi Ajilore

Systemic shifts (key words): *Health systems; Time travel*

Ade opened his eyes and lifted his head, drowsily and slowly at first, but then with increased effort, and sat up. All around him, a number of machines seem to have been set off at the same time and were blaring all forms of sounds. He felt like he had just emerged from a long, refreshing and energising sleep. But he couldn't make sense of where he was. It certainly does not look like his room or anywhere in his house.

Where was he? He looked around. His surroundings have a faint similitude to that of a hospital, but not remotely close to any hospital he knows or had ever seen – except perhaps for those ones he'd seen a few times in some of the futuristic movies he deemed over the top and totally unrealistic.

Now, he could feel rapid movements coming towards his direction. It seems like beyond the walls of the room where he is now sat there are hallways bustling with voices and movements. Agitated, perhaps excited, voices and movements swelling as they move rapidly towards him like a wave about to engulf him. Suddenly, the door busted open and incredulous eyes stared at him, from behind medical gears/outfits. He stared back at them but could not make sense of any of the faces.

Fast forward one hour and his world had been transformed from the news, no story, he had been told. He had opened his eyes in 2050. The last time he had remembered closing it, it was 2021. That was the immediate post-Covid19 year. He had lost his job, and had attempted suicide by running his car into an electric pole and had ended up in this hospital, not dead but unconscious and vegetative. That was 29 years ago. The narrator was brief, and paused to allow him to make sense of the news.

Then he asked, "but where am I?" The doctor responded slowly but firmly and said: "you are at the ICU wing of the Lagos University Teaching Hospital". Now he was more confused. At the height of the pandemic in 2020, even the whole of Nigeria had only a handful of ventilators and Nigerian hospitals before then, from primary to tertiary, were not known for their best equipment, workforce or services.

As if reading his thoughts, the doctor continued narrating how the Covid-19 pandemic had for the first time limited access to medical tourism for Nigeria's elite, and how they had been forced to use what was available all around the country. A lot of influential people had contracted the virus and died – powerful elites like the president's influential chief of staff, emirs, top political, business and traditional elites. Their money, influence and access had been unable to save them as all borders were closed. For the first time, the Nigerian elite had felt what the average people feel all their lives – powerless, defenceless and hopeless in dealing with a situation – and they had banded together to say never again.

Ade listened with rapt attention and willed him, with his eyes, to continue. The doctor took the cue and went on, informing him how the government had jacked up the health budget to about 20% and at least 15% of the total since then, and had made sure that really competent people now run the health ministries and public hospitals. They have also ensured that a good part of the budget now goes to training and retraining of healthcare workers, hi tech and cutting edge equipment and research, and adequate and globally competitive remuneration for healthcare workers. Besides, the funding for education and quality had increased significantly too, that now most of our world's best doctors, and best research outputs and knowledge come from our own universities.

By now, Ade's wife and daughters have arrived. They had come as soon as they got the news. He was happy to see them and they were all over him joyful, overwhelmed and teary. His wife looked old now. She was 39 years the last time he saw her. But it has been 29 years. Now she is 68 and a grandma. Her daughters came with their husbands and children. He had only 2 daughters the last time he remembered, now there are two son-in-laws and three grandchildren. He was overwhelmed.

Still one last question tugged at the back of his mind, and just as the doctor was about to turn and step away to give him time to catch up with his family he blurted out "But if this is a government hospital, then who pays the

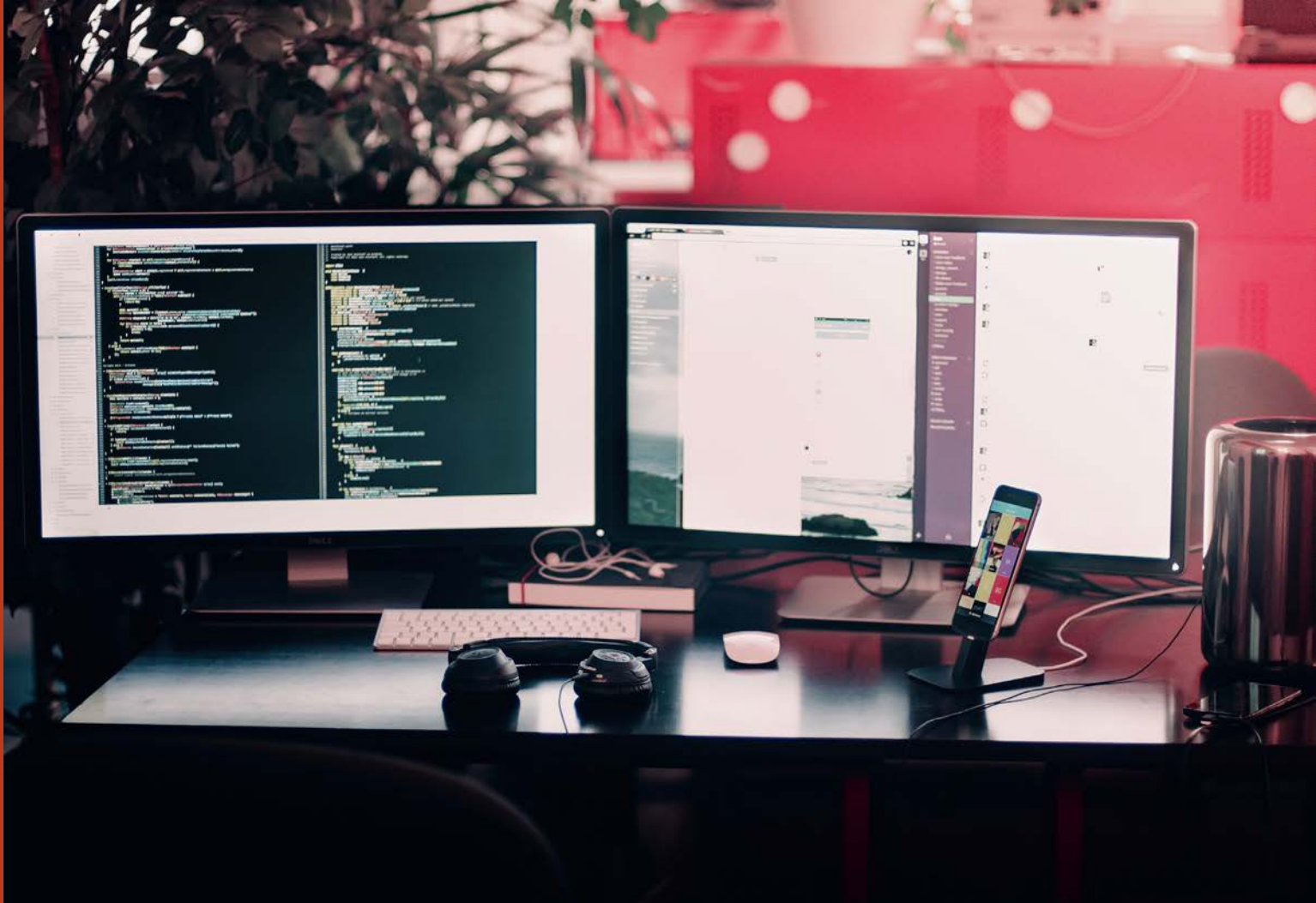
medical bills?" looking to his wife as he asked. The doctor answered him that there is now a comprehensive and inclusive medical coverage for everyone in the country now, since 2022. Besides for people with this unusual situation, coma patients, the Right to Live Act of 2025 ensures that they are kept alive for at least 10 years, and thereafter until after their loved ones are ready to give up on them. But as he can see, his family never gave up on him.

On hearing that, tears welled up in his eyes. Then he held his wife and daughters closer. For now, even though they have grown older, they are the only thing that made sense. Not the new functioning and apparently prosperous Nigeria he had woken up in, where there is an inclusive health system that works for everyone. Not the sophisticated Star Trek-like equipment around him. Not even the sons-in-law and grandchildren he had just met, awkwardly. He is just happy to have them back now and in the coming days and months, he hopes that they will gently guide him into the future he had abruptly woken up to.

Oluwabunmi Ajilore, Nigeria, NGFP special award Africa - Oluwabunmi is a foresight and international development expert with over 12 years' experience working mainly in international agricultural development, foresight advisory and programme management roles - with GFAR, UNFAO, CTA-EU, CIAT et al. He is a Nigerian, but has lived and worked in Latin America and the Caribbean islands, Europe and across Africa.

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“The doctor answered that there is now comprehensive and inclusive medical coverage for everyone in the country, since 2022.”



South Africa in 2050 - An unparalleled view

by Leila Kidson & Alanna Markle

Systemic shifts (key words): *Future of Africa; Economic transformation & entrepreneurial innovation; Public service delivery*

After a two-hour ascent we are up Devil's Peak. This route is less popular than those on Lion's Head and Table Mountain, but it holds one of the city's best kept secrets: an unparalleled view. From here, you can see Cape Town at every angle, deep into the historic centre, out to Robben Island beyond Africa's southernmost shores, north to the feet of its rugged winelands, and over the vast buzzing city life in between. Looking out, I remember when the swaths of suburbs like the one where I now live used to be largely low-income or informal settlements, where crime was rampant and centuries of oppression played out in pockets of deep economic depression. As we summit, I breathe a sigh of relief that the country is no longer

defined by its scarred history.

In the wake of the COVID-19 crisis, South Africa was one of the first countries in Africa to find a way to leapfrog the uneven development trajectory that so many believed was inevitable. The escape route was through the digital economy, and by now most of the continent has followed. In many ways worse than the health crisis, the economic crisis that set in left many of us with nothing to lose, and we knew the stakes were higher than they had been since the 80s. A wave of entrepreneurial innovation distributed design technologies, second-generation to blockchain, allowed people to connect to and support one another across the many lines -

income, education, geography, language, and for some race - that had previously separated us. I now look back proud to have joined in developing one of the first generations of the ecosystem of apps on which our country now runs.

Services offered and rendered directly through peer-to-peer systems allowed money to begin flowing through the now horizontally defined economy like never before. Small businesses and self-employment now flourish, and technologies like 3D printing and solar energy have allowed for light, distributed manufacturing to serve local markets across South Africa. Many who could work remotely moved outside of densely populated urban settlements, and most of the city is now spotted with trees, parks and gardens.

Like our political liberation, our country's economic liberation was ultimately led by the people. Government was quick to catch up, though, and now runs far more effective service-delivery and participation systems through similar platforms to those that were developed for the digital marketplace. The move to distributed ledger monetary systems also helped us leave corruption behind without the attendant red tape. However, organised crime found ways to adapt, and we still have to remain vigilant to maintain open and neutral online platforms that can allow the innovative and interlinked 'glocalised' economy we developed to thrive.

My children no longer hike with me. They are off pursuing careers that as a student I never knew would exist. They have had a dynamic education, having been able to take courses from the world's best universities online, including some in South Africa, and are taking the country's spirit of diversity and entrepreneurship forward. They have also built communities with other young people across the continent in part to help those who are still in need, particularly those most vulnerable to the impacts of the rapidly changing climate. The international community also plays a role in adaptation here, as they do in many communities around the world, but in these relief and rebuilding efforts, it is always Africans who are first to the scene and who lay claim to the final word.

Leila Kidson, South Africa - Leila is a storyteller, creative innovator, and dreamer of positive futures, with an education in Journalism and Law from Rhodes University. She is a Cape Town local, with an interest in social development, entrepreneurship and creative expression.

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Alanna Markle, USA, NGFP award National Policy, 2019 - Alanna is a foresight analyst with a background in international development who came to the field through the Frederick S. Pardee Center for International Futures at the University of Denver. She is a West Virginia native, but has lived and worked in Latin America, Africa and Europe.

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“The escape route was through the digital economy.”



ASIA

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Bangladesh in 2050 - Tomorrowlands

by Shakil Ahmed

Systemic shifts (key words): *Participatory governance & citizen engagement; Collective visioning & “tomorrowlands”; Education*

As I get off the Zero-Waste bus, I am scurrying along the pathways of Dhaka amidst the colorfully dressed crowds of men, women, boys and girls towards the celebration. In my haste, I forget to appreciate the clean air, the sparkling streets, the children playing freely in public spaces, the energizing instruments, the lovely decorations and the luscious green the city of Dhaka has become over the years. Today marks the 20-year anniversary of the Bangladesh government celebrating its systems and initiatives around the country’s novel idea of Gross National Inspiration and here we are, all gathered at our local tomorrowland.

11th July, 2030 - I remember this date as it was the day when the Bangladeshi government decided to initiate a national dialogue with its citizens on the question of policies and systems that should be incorporated by the Government to inspire its own citizens, and be inspiring to citizens from other countries of the world. I remember clearly, as it was during my birthday and through my newly gifted holographic projector, we were watching the Prime Minister’s speech, as he said that not only can the citizens of an inspired Bangladesh collectively act towards progress and the wellbeing of each other, an inspired Bangladesh can be inspiring to citizens and nations across the world.

He took us through the memory lane and reminded us of the year of the virus. While it was indeed a difficult year for us, that year also showed us all the different ways in which people showed solidarity in helping one another in dealing with the virus. Right now, at our tomorrowland, I’m standing in front of a large mural with an image of the Pyramid of Needs with the idea of collective actualization on top, instead of self-actualization. This initial

“These tomorrow-lands and their curators sparked the revolution required for political parties to work together, for inclusive institutions to be built and for efforts around Gross National Inspiration to thrive in 2050.”



image of the pyramid was borrowed straight from that speech, which laid the foundation for the frameworks of Gross National inspiration. Now, we have started using The Art Palette of Needs, instead of a pyramid.

I remember growing up and seeing how people would come together in times of disasters, such as floods, viruses, earthquakes, Rana Plaza. But after 2030, there was a shift, people were coming together inspired by intentionally-nudged cultural efforts in collective visioning and transformative futures thinking. As I move away from the mural, I can see a 3-D model of our city, laid out in the context of the education curriculum.

2035 saw the country's first comprehensive education policy, where schools were no longer the only space, place and time for education, but other spaces outside of school, such as streets, supermarkets, fields, parks, museums, libraries, homes, internet, social media, television, radio, urban and rural spaces and tomorrowlands were also considered as part of what is now an inter-ministerial education policy.

The 90s in Bangladesh were a time where we collectively understood the importance of

sending children to schools, but 2020 saw the seeds being planted for a paradigm shift in education , where children and adults, if given the opportunities, can learn in multiple spaces, physical and virtual, thus setting the precedence for a comprehensive education policy. This led to the idea of where I am right now – our local tomorrowland.

While conceived in 2020 during the virus, tomorrowlands seemed to gain popularity in 2030, when all villages, thanas, districts, unions, wards and cities were allocated resources to build their own customized versions. I remember the first time when we all got together - local artists, storytellers, curators, educators and community members from all walks of life - to creatively contribute to the visions of the community. These tomorrowlands were set to be either physical or virtual spaces – they could be as simple as just a mural on a wall to a library or even an amusement park, located where communities gather, be it markets, mosques or parks. Ours was at the middle of a market square.

These spaces were meant to provoke an ongoing conversation within communities, inspiring them to work towards their preferred futures. These tomorrowlands and their curators sparked the revolution required for political parties to work together, for inclusive institutions to be built and for efforts around Gross National Inspiration to thrive in 2050. We are gathered here today to listen to all our storytellers, envisioning a brighter 2080 – let the games begin!

Shakil Ahmed, Bangladesh, NGFP award Asia 2019 - Shakil is currently part of the Leadership Team at Acumen Academy Bangladesh. As an educator, futurist and storyteller, he has worked on diverse projects, such as consulting the Prime Minister's Office on the Futures of Education in Bangladesh in 2041, supporting young trade union leaders in exploring the Futures of Work in 2040, working with BRAC in developing low-cost secondary school business models or even performing theater and spoken word poetry from time to time.

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India in 2050 - Mass Personalization and Virtual Vehicles

by Deepshikha Dash

Systemic shifts (key words): *Mobility; Transport; Robotics/AI, Human Centered Design; Integrated Networks; Global Identity*

Rahul could not stop grinning. Mrs Sarita looked down at her 6 year old grandson as she asked him “Are you excited to go to the party?”. “Yes!”, replied a visibly exuberant Rahul. As Sarita burst out laughing, her Uniband suddenly lit up and gently vibrated on her wrist. This meant that their ride had arrived. Sarita looked at her grandson “Come on Rahul, it’s time to go!”

On the street, there were several mobipods. However, Rahul instantly pointed at the blue spherical disk coming towards them. Sarita too could recognize it a mile away! She was never very good with cabs and would usually search frantically for their number plates in order to find them. But ever since the Mobipod avatars had been launched, it did not matter where she was, her ride always looked exactly the same. Though the same Mobipod avatar had greeted her in Germany, California and now in India, no one else in the entire world had the exact Mobipod avatar that she did. Even her global number plate was unique!

As they slowly walked towards the mobipod, Sarita remembered how ordering a cab had not always been so easy. Sometimes the net would not be strong enough or the searching signal would take forever to find an available ride. But now with the Universal Net, she did not have to “connect” anymore, her Uniband made her automatically a part of the living network. Using this network, her AI companion Miu helped her and her husband do their daily chores.

When Sarita and Rahul entered the Mobipod, Miu introduced them to the Mobipod AI. His name was David. Miu had informed David about Sarita’s arthritic knee and had shared her memory bank so

that David could customize the Mobipod's interior. David changed the seating and ambiance to the exact shape, colour and mood that Sarita liked. Miu also knew that Sarita had forgotten to do her physiotherapy and so had asked the service providers to send a massage Mobipod.

While travelling, Rahul looked at his batman costume and asked Sarita, "Dadi, do I look like a smart Batman or a dumb Batman?" Sarita asked David to show Rahul how he looked. The calm interior suddenly became a hall of mirrors instantly making Rahul break into a series of heroic poses. "Well, what do you think?" asked Sarita. "Smart Batman! I think you should take my pic and show Dadu" replied Rahul. Sarita agreed and asked Miu to take screenshots of the Mobipod's interiors and ping them to Rahul's grandfather. Sarita could immediately feel her husband's joy through her Emotinet account. Her Emotinet account let her share and receive actual emotions rather than emoticons. On talking to her husband, Sarita learnt that his flight had landed early. However, even before he could switch off his Uniband flight mode, Miu had already informed the Mobipod service providers. As a result, his Mobipod with his Mobipod avatar had been waiting for him as soon as he exited the airport.

"You have arrived at your destination, ma'am" David announced. "I hope you had a nice trip". Miu instantly ensured all personal information was secured and erased from the external Mobipod service. Then the doors opened to let Sarita and Rahul out.

They were at the periphery of Connaught Place's 'no vehicle' zone. Miu had arranged for a hover platform which had recently been launched as a last mile mobility option for the elderly. Miu briefly introduced Sandy who was the hover platform AI while Sarita and Rahul cautiously stepped on to the ergonomically designed platform. Sandy adjusted her support to ensure that her new riders felt safe and comfortable. Meanwhile, Rahul held up his cape and imagined he was flying while Sarita glanced back just in time to see the Mobipod transform. First, it changed back to its original neutral white colour and then, its interiors filled with a brilliant ultra blue light as David disinfected the cab for his next customer. Sarita smiled, she had never imagined that she would own a virtual vehicle, but then again, she had never imagined that she would be standing on a hover platform with her grandson either!

Deepshikha Dash, India, NGFP group award 2019 - Deepshikha is an Architect, Industrial Designer and Futurist from India. She is currently working on her PhD in the area of Design Research from the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay (IITB). Her areas of interest include, Story Telling, Design Research, Design Fiction and Foresight.

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AUSTR

AUSTRALIA



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Australia in 2050 - The Immering

by Ana Tiquia

Systemic shifts (key words): *ontological shifts, non-human agency, more-than-human worlds, futures of design*

It's 11.05am on Thursday 14 April, 2050. Mia Lim, a practitioner in bacterial-centred design is arriving at AMV (Animal Mineral Vegetable), a multi-species interaction design collective. The studio's website describes their work as "exploring change enacted through non-human agents, where human design plays a facilitatory role, rather than an initiatory one."

Mia was the first one in at the studio, or perhaps the last. She remembered that Kiefer and Rajneeth had been active in the early AM lately - they'd been collaborating on a design intervention with the crows over in Royal Park, and adjusted their biorhythms to synchronise with their collaborators. Mia had twenty minutes before her first meeting: a client with a mineral-centred design project spanning geologic time frames. She felt a little dispersed this morning, and needed to connect to guidance--something larger and wiser than her alone.

The northern light streamed through the studio's bay windows, drawing her to them. She loved this place, it held all her fond memories of the old studio. As a child she played amongst the big, 1:1 prototypes Gloria and the designers used to test their fabulous interactives. Gloria and her team designed 'experiences', where sensors,

algorithms and binary computational systems conspired to interact with human agents. The experiences of course, were unquestionably human ones.

Mia hadn't planned to inherit her mother's design business. She studied biology, specialising as a bacteriologist and quickly developed an affinity for cyanobacteria. Mia was one of the flux generation; born into transitions, upheavals, shifts amidst numerous planetary tipping points: atmospheric, human population, fossil fuel reserve and epidemic. The tipping points weren't so much descents into chaotic, runaway systems as they were floodlights that cut through shadow and nuance, exposing the nature of things. They forced you to look, and everything was cast in a new, stark light. We saw ourselves entangled and interdependent with each other. It made us as fragile or as robust as the network we formed part of. It was as uncomfortable a realisation as it was assuring; often both. Human intelligence and agency were just one amongst many. Atmospheric systems created futures, viruses created futures, rakali (the water rat) created futures. No longer could humans make sole claim to being future makers. We became entangled in the making and unmaking of each other, our futures became entirely shared. What of design



in a time of interlocking agencies?” Mia asked, and an interaction design studio different to her mother’s was born.

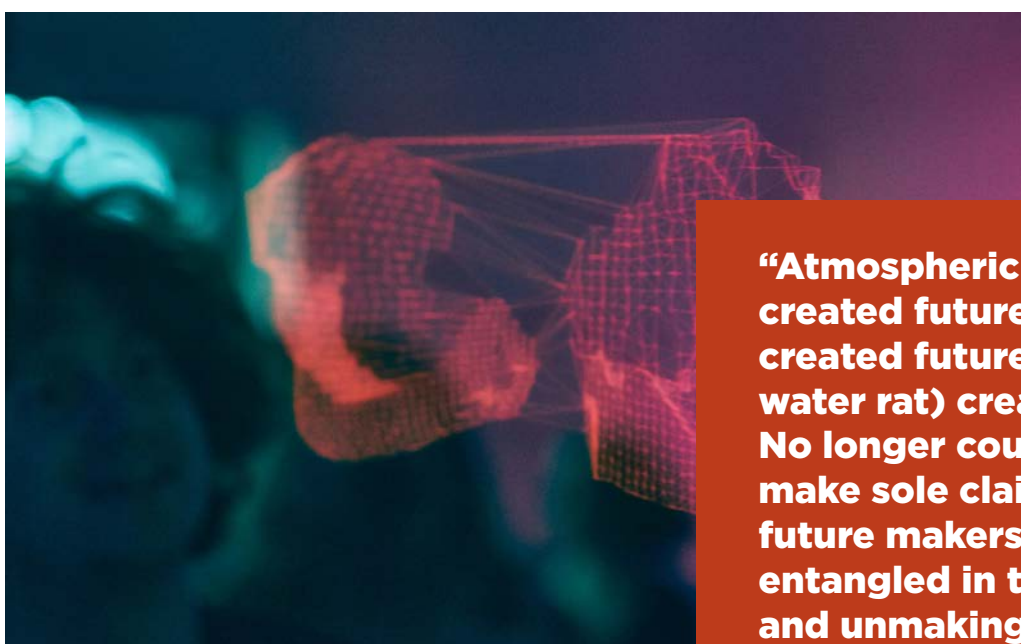
The immersing started on the fringes but began to grow. Initially it was an activist practice to assert radical inter-dependence, eventually it migrated into mainstream health and wellbeing as a collective grieving practice for climate and ecological mutation and change. Now schools and workplaces had begun to adopt it, running programs and workshops. The immersing began, uncovering new intelligences. Immer (verb) colloq. “To immer – to immerse or transform oneself into the object of one’s study, to collapse the boundary between subjective and objective, to achieve immanence with others.”

Mia reached the window, slipping off her shoes to greet the earth below. Opening the window Mia felt herself become –breath by breath –once again of the world. Her skin became porous, and the separate Mia expanded and began to breathe with that around her. Gazing out the window she immersed with the spotted gums along the nature strip, joining them in their transpiration – and while joining them in this airy and energetic

exchange, felt down below their root line to connect with the mycelial network below. There was always the dark, dull thrill of immersing with mycelia, connecting, linking and becoming with something far beyond the comprehension--both spatial and informational--of the human-scale. Mycelia humbled. To immer with them was to tremble, to be awed all while surrendering to a language, a logic, a feeling so different to one’s own. “Thank you,” she whispered in exhale, returning as her client stepped through the front door.

Ana Tiquia, Australia, NGFP award Oceania 2019 - Ana is founder and director of All Tomorrows' Futures - public interventions that bring arts practice and futures strategy together to foster public participation in future imagining. Her research explores energy futures, futures of labour, the role of arts practice in socio-ecological transition, and the power dynamics encoded in algorithmic systems.

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“Atmospheric systems created futures, viruses created futures, rakali (the water rat) created futures. No longer could humans make sole claim to being future makers. We became entangled in the making and unmaking of each other, our futures became entirely shared.”



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Wales in 2050 - Fit for Future Generations

by Cathy Madge

Systemic shifts (key words): *Rights of future generations; Mental health; Green recovery & biodiversity, Climate change*

Ellie was 5 years old in 2020 when the pandemic hit, a crucial time in her education and her development. She remembers life and school before the pandemic, sharing toys and experiences with her teachers and friends. She remembers her dad being ill with the virus, catching it through his job caring for older people. She remembers returning to socially-distanced school on some days of the week, and learning at home with her parents some days of the week.

In 2050 Ellie is now 35 and she and her friends look back on the years of the first pandemic as the time everything changed. Even though it felt strange and difficult at the time, it is widely believed that the pandemic was a much needed wake-up call to the world and an unprecedented opportunity to change the unfair and unsustainable ways the human race had been evolving over previous generations.

Ellie doesn't really remember much about life

before the pandemic, but she's learned from history lessons that Wales in 2050 is a place transformed, in comparison with the early decades of the twentieth century. In 2015 Wales was the first place in the world to legislate for future generations, with many countries following suit in the following decades. This forward thinking meant that in 2020 there was a framework to make decisions differently and to prioritise future as well as current generations.

Ellie works as a part-time wellness coordinator, a job that involves working closely with people in her community to support them to have good health. Society's priority has shifted from economic growth at any cost, to keeping people and places healthy, in order to avoid certain groups of people being more at risk of diseases and other global threats. Ellie is also a part-time politician and campaigner, part of a wave of young women who have dominated politics in recent decades. Most people have several, overlapping and interconnected jobs with

working from home as the norm, meaning people have a better work-life balance and a greater focus on family and community.

The 2020 pandemic sent shockwaves about poverty and inequality through communities and around the world. Aged 5 Ellie lived in a multi-cultural and relatively poor inner city area and, as she grew older, heard how her poorer friends and their families suffered more both with the effects of the virus itself, and the effects of all approaches to lockdown. One of her friends' families ran out of food and had to rely on the kindness of neighbours and food banks. Another of her friends lived with a violent parent and had to be taken into care in the middle of the first lockdown, and never came back to Ellie's school again.

Ellie's parents tell her that in 2050, people treat one another differently than in the old days, and that this undoubtedly started after the 2020 pandemic. As mental illness shot to an all-time high in the 2020s, mental well-being and kindness are now considered a high priority across society, in all places from schools, to workplaces, to care homes. Welsh government made the bold and difficult choice to initiate a 'green recovery'

Ellie's generation is the first that doesn't have the threat of climate change hanging over them. In 2020 the Welsh government made the bold and difficult choice to develop a 'green recovery', a programme of investment to rapidly reduce emissions and economic inequality by creating low-carbon infrastructure and jobs. The success

of this approach was boosted by several positive side effects of lockdown, including a huge reduction in flights, a crash in demand for fossil fuels and a focus on local food production.

The 'green recovery' also prioritised the health of our abundant natural resources in Wales – the nation in which Ellie lives is greener than ever, with green infrastructure considered the norm. This focus on enhancing biodiversity has also been reflected across the world, as the origins of the 2020 pandemic were linked to the habitat depletion of several species. Ellie is mostly vegan and 80% of what she buys is produced locally – she can't imagine anything different.

Ellie's generation looks back to 2020 as a turning point for humanity, which it might not have been if the inequalities and fragilities of our society had not been brought into sharp focus by the first pandemic in a century.

Cathy Madge, Wales, NGFP award Europe 2018 – Cathy is a lead change maker for the Office of the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales.

Twitter @cathy_madge

“An unprecedented opportunity to change the unfair and unsustainable ways the human race had been evolving over previous generations.”

UK in 2050 - A small town in South West England

by Charlie Warwick

Systemic shifts (key words): *Community innovation & citizen engagement; Digital transformation*

Ally is sitting proud and a bit sweaty on the crude platform erected in the square to celebrate the Centre opening. It took years to convince the town's people that the adaptable, connected public space behind the carefully preserved market hall facade could be more than a glorified concrete box. And still no one in the applauding crowd would appreciate every beautiful, intricate detail of the building: the drawdown cladding that is already powering nearby homes and businesses, the permeable, bio-receptive flooring that will self-fix in years to come, the microbial balancing units that will ensure young and old can use this space safely in every season. Ally and Bima, the blueprint AI, mapped this structure together, and today they pass the management of its digital twin to the town.

The councillor's boisterous homage to the efforts of local contractors and cross-sector

collaborators fades out as Ally becomes lost in thought, staring at the original masonry - handiwork still impressive three hundred years on. This place has survived ebbs and flows of investment and affluence; rapid, half-improvised shifts in focus from agriculture, to weaving, to tourism, to who-knows-what as the 'brain drain' of young adults to more lucrative urban locations took its toll. It was nearly knocked down when Pitt's taxes hit, when the wars hit, when the cows got sick, when the people got sick. That was one of Ally's first memories, actually. Washing hands until they were chapped, and the longest summer break training the dog to play dead if you fake-shot it. The Centre was a dried-up department store then. It has been a factory, a market, a hospital, a census bureau, a retirement home, an empty shell - and now it has the potential to be all of those things again.



Parts of the building have already started to be used. As soon as the basement's hydroponic system was hooked up to the microgrid the farmers moved in, and restaurants and families started placing their produce orders via the ledger. Ally attended the town council meeting that christened the AV room, joined remotely by human and AI representatives from other UK communities wanting to download inspiration from the Centre's blueprint. And the first of the small enterprises who applied for a commercial spot were busy configuring their moveable units and surfaces last time Ally visited the pre-fab off-site. Each time these people enter those spaces, the Centre will learn what they need from it, how they move and interact - it can push their requests and offers to members of the ledger. It will take a little time to get used to, but this building, merged with the ledger, can manage supply and demand in the town. No one person can mess with it, but every single person has agency.

Ally tries to curb feelings of smugness. Digital platforms tied to physical spaces that bring communities closer together have long been in

development. And access determined by who you are, not what you know or what you own, isn't a new idea. But last time Ally lived in this place, before returning to manage the Centre's regeneration, the town was at the mercy of political, environmental and economic forces far beyond its control. People were willingly giving up their identities just to be passive consumers at the end of a complicated and destructive chain. Now this community can democratically steer its own course; citizens can collectively map their own futures. The merry councillor turns from his captive crowd, either squinting through tears, or winking at Ally. Ally doesn't really care which.

Charlie Warwick, UK, NGFP award Europe 2019. Charlie leads the Futures Practice for Kantar's Consulting Division in Europe, working with organisations across sectors to understand change and shape better futures.

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The Netherlands/ the World in 2050 - Politics of Hope

by Erica Bol

Systemic shifts (key words): *Sustainable living & circular economy; Borderless world; EU leadership, Digital transition, New jobs, Futures Literacy*

I still live in what used to be the Netherlands but it now refers to a state instead of a country. I built my own sustainable home there, close to the forests, back in 2019, which was quite innovative at the time. The Netherlands was a front-runner in the circular economy back then. Nowadays all houses are built in a circular way and are off the grid.

I remember that we lived in separate countries, with national borders, different rules and conflicting government systems. The pandemic in 2020 made us realise that we were living a lie. Borders were only there because we created them. Viruses do not care, they do not carry passports. The environment doesn't stop at an imaginary line; nature is everywhere. Even the economy prospers from the free movement of goods and workers as in the global economy.

I believe the foundation for the borderless world was made with the United Nations in 1945. The creation of the European Union, where 28 European states had scrapped border controls, was another great example of countries coming together. The EU struggled at times, it wasn't easy, but they took leadership after the COVID-19 crisis, as the US was no longer leading the way, and led us forward to a global world with no borders. Governments still exist but only ensure basic functions and institutions continue; monitoring of the economy, business and banks, along with the maintaining of communications, roads, education, public utilities, welfare and health services. Politics of hope.

I can proudly say that I am a true global citizen. This was so nicely put by President Obama in his campaign in 2004, we are 'people of the world'. We made it; Humanity above nationality and religion. And this time being part of nature instead of separated from it. Maybe 'nature' also gave us the wakeup call we needed. There was a huge global harvest failure because of drought, floods, fire and locusts. A big step towards globalization was teaming up in 2022 to respond to this ecological crisis. We finally understood earth is a living, interconnected, animated and sacred whole. The Paris-agreement in 2015 kicked it off.

The interesting thing is, right now I am more connected to my local neighbourhood than ever. The classic digital transition was accelerated by the virus, when we all had to work from home.

Digital systems connected, blockchain4good arose and robotics took over much more standard tasks. I now work just a few hours a day, on different freelance projects as the work environment changed into a gig-economy. I connect with colleagues all over the world easily and efficiently. I love my work as a conscious future designer which is now a well-known job compared to when I started. Young people now even learn futures literacy in school. They are prepared for tomorrow's world by engaging them in the art of thinking, imagining and dreaming to navigate an uncertain and volatile world.

I am happy we found a way out of the 'rat race' we were living before the pandemic. We now have time again to connect with ourselves and each other, to stand still and feel our own energy, to stand still and talk with our neighbours, to stand still and see the plants grow, to stand still and enjoy all we have around us.

- Hope lies in the face of uncertainty. I believe we are capable of much more than we think. -

Erica Bol, the Netherlands, NGFP award Education, 2018 - Erica is a changemaker and works as a Conscious Future Designer. With her foundation, Teach the Future, they prepare young people for tomorrow by teaching the future today.

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“The EU struggled at times, it wasn't easy, but they took leadership after the COVID-19 crisis, as the US was no longer leading the way, and led us forward to a global world with no borders.”





Europe/ the World in 2050 - Digital Nomads & A New Multilateralism

by Özge Aydoğan

Systemic shifts (key words): *Multilateralism; Digitalization; New Work*

It's a late Friday spring afternoon in 2050. I am sitting in my garden, under the shade of a pomegranate tree. There is a mild brise, and I am enjoying being outside while wrapping up my work week. After COVID-19, my partner and I decided to leave our city lives and move into a semi-urban area outside of a major European city, in close proximity to the sea and nature. With our savings, we bought some land and built an off-the-grid house where we use solar panels to generate our own energy and source water from the rain and a local borehole. We had for a long time played with the thought of designing a future home that would allow us to live more sustainably and in a self-sufficient way. Having lived through COVID-19 and the weeks long self-confinement in a city apartment, we finally got the necessary push to turn our idea into action. It was around the same time where we became

parents for the first time, and wanted to raise our newborn in an environment that seemed to provide more safety and security in a world facing growing instability and unpredictability.

Since COVID-19, both my partner and I have been mainly working on remote, with occasional visits to our respective employers' offices when needed. I am looking back to a long professional career working on international development with the United Nations and other international organisations, which I have seen change profoundly over the last 30 years. Today, most of my meetings are online. I can even "participate" in field visits in geographically diverse places, made possible by new virtual reality tools and technologies. These changes were introduced with COVID-19 which forced many offices, including the UN's headquarters in New York

and other places, to temporarily shut down and introduce teleworking measures.

What started as a temporary measure soon became more widely accepted and even needed given the continued risks and fear of a re-surge of pandemics, as well as drop of significant funding for the UN and other multilateral organisations. Soon it became clear that allowing for more flexible working arrangements was not only a way to provide more freedom for employees, but also made economic sense. By cutting expensive fixed costs, first and foremost significant rental fees that had to be paid for expensive locations such as New York or Geneva, millions could be saved. Having the first ever World Bank and IMF Spring Meetings — a major gathering of leading development policy makers and practitioners — go online further pathed the way for future multilateral gatherings to increasingly take place in the digital space. COVID-19 as the true driver behind the multilateral system's digital transformation.

Less in-person meetings and gatherings had also a positive impact on the system's environmental footprint, which dropped significantly especially due to reduced air traffic. Finally, the crisis also forced the global multilateral system to be more open for bottom up participation and collaboration with a wider ecosystem of change makers including from civil society, the private sector or academia in search of new solutions to respond and mitigate to a growing number of risks and shocks threatening sustainable development beyond global pandemics.

My partner, an innovation specialist and consultant working on remote with a Malaysia based social innovation company, also benefited from major reforms introduced by a renewed multilateral system. It followed the good examples of countries such as Estonia that had made e-governance the standard modus-operandi even before COVID-19, also progressively supported the creation of integrated and connected tax and social safety systems at the global level. Thanks to these systems, a growing international work force of digital nomads was able to pay taxes and receive social benefits when needed, independently from their physical locations. This allowed people like

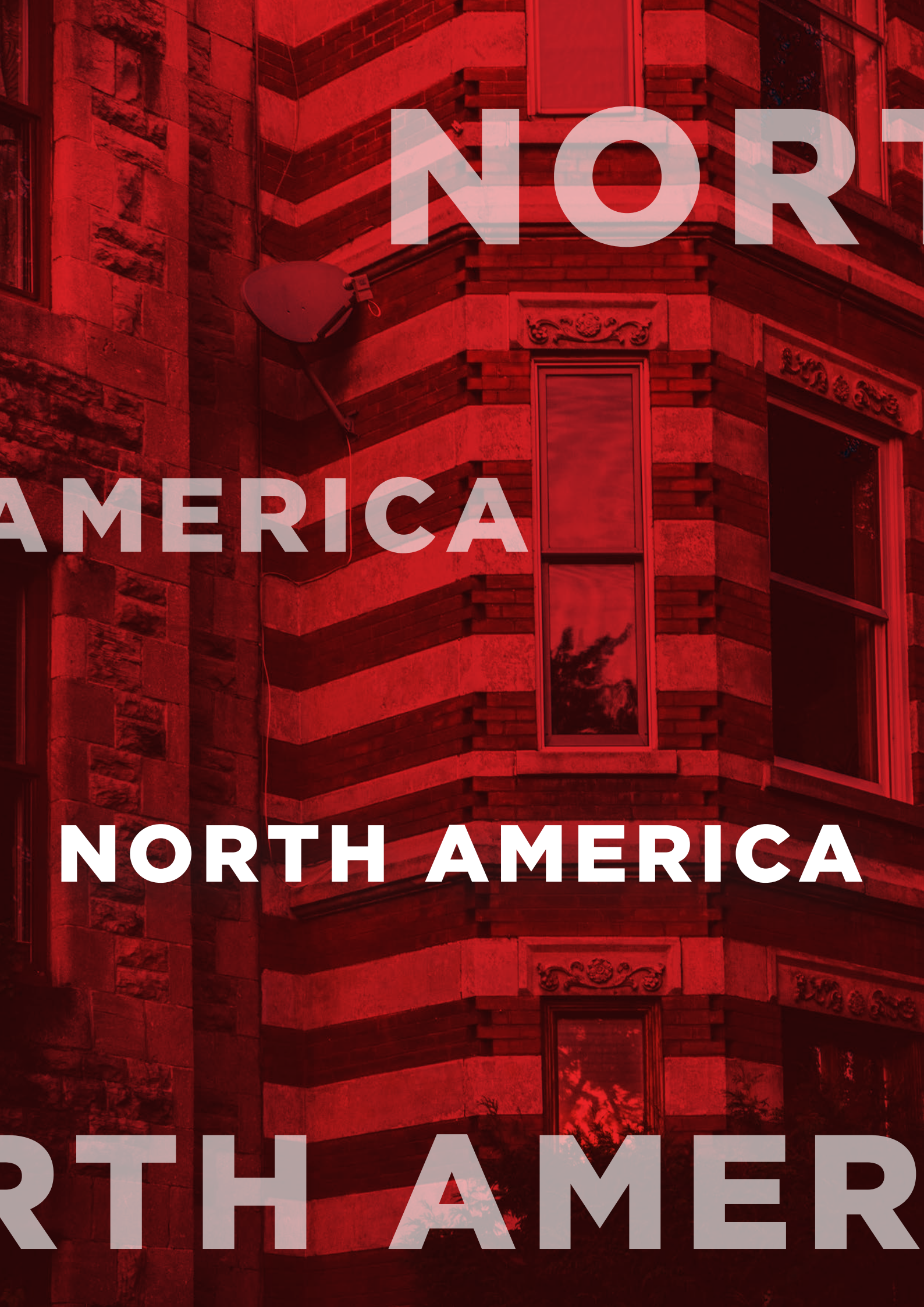
my partner — and myself — to be more mobile and have greater agency over the life and places we wanted to live without falling through the cracks of national systems.

As I am finishing my coffee on this late spring afternoon, I am thinking back to the year 2020 and the COVID-19 crisis. I am glad that despite the destruction and disruptions it caused to many people's lives and the global economy at that time, it also marked a moment that sparked positive change and laid the foundations of a new, more permeable global system.

Özge Aydogan, Switzerland, NGFP award International Policy - She is a foresight specialist with the UN, Co-founder of the Young UN Policy Lab on Frontier Issues.

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“Soon it became clear that allowing for more flexible working arrangements was not only a way to provide more freedom for employees, but also made economic sense.”



NORTH

AMERICA

NORTH AMERICA

ORTH AMER

Canada in 2050 - Removing the Middle Human

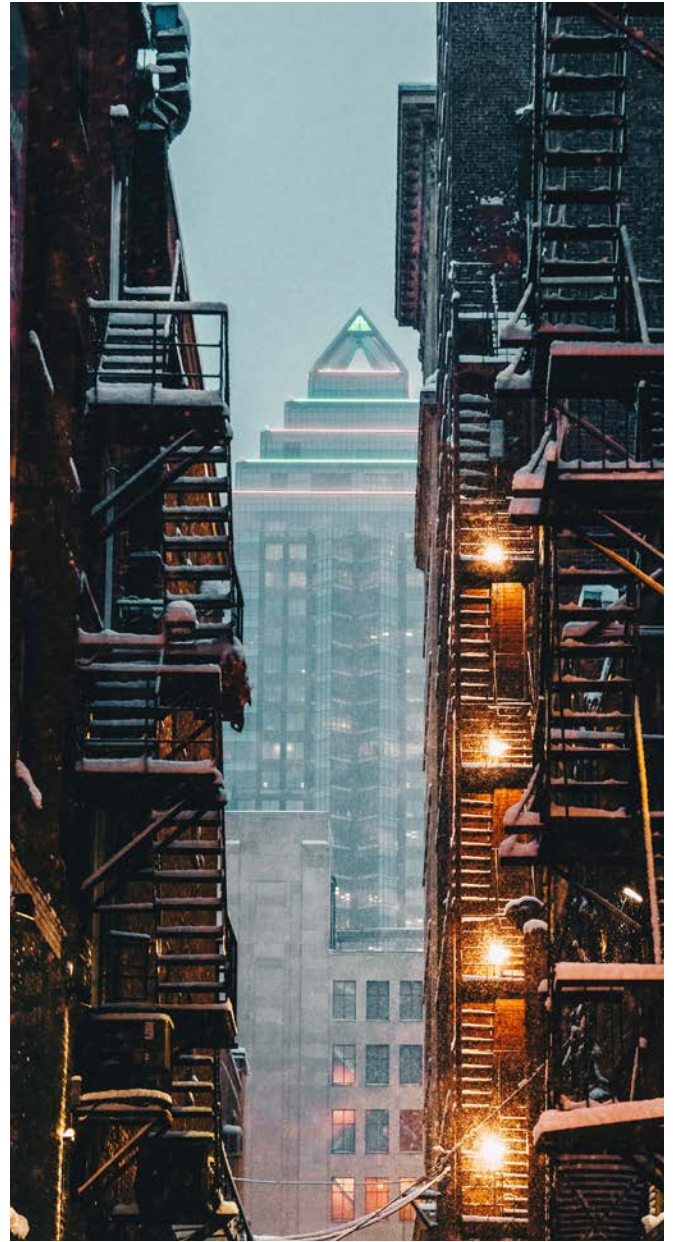
by Maggie Greyson

Systemic shifts (key words): *New Governance; Smart cities; Self Agency*

Montreal, Quebec 2050

It's 2050 and we meet Dwyane Frontiere, a COVID Kid. He was born in 2021 in a quarantined village in the nation of Quebec (formerly a province in Canada). In the 2020's, most of Dwayne's life would have been mediated through a middle person; like a family doctor, a real estate agent, or a job talent agency. As a 30-year old he gets more of what he needs on demand through machine learning and 24 hour Ask an Expert services. This way to interact with experts influenced the relationship between elected officials and citizens in his home town. This link between rhetoric and broken promises became known as a "404" during the Great Internet Pause of 2043. Originally referring to a page not found on the internet, a 404 became the colloquial way of saying, "That's an error, and we both know it." In creating a political noise-cancelling system they identify civic leaders for their subject matter expertise. They removed a human barrier to good governance with ethical AI.

At 21, Dwayne moved to a neighbourhood in Montreal that was early to adopt the guidelines for ethical smart cities. Dwayne now lives in a small condo in Place Ville-Marie, a converted skyscraper in downtown Montreal. Dwayne's entire company lives on four floors above him, each in a hermetically sealed unit. This was something familiar from his youth. After working from home became the norm in the 2020's converted office towers became live/work/nourish studios for employees and their families. This was a physical distancing compromise between working at home and collaborating in person. Thirty years on, teams still collaborate with colleagues on opposite sides of glass meeting walls. In Dwayne's physical world, his life is a throwback to decades gone by, but his present and future is an evolving landscape



of ethical issues, governance structures, and individual rights.

The COVID Crisis created a renaissance era for the multi-disciplinary collaborations between science and humanities to bring people into biotech enlightenment. As a kid, Dwayne's parents read him bedtime stories inspired by a Smart Cities: Shaping the Society of 2030 report. He now works in in-vivo digital circuits for childhood education. He writes code for children's songs created by musicians in Smart Cities Accelerator Training Programs. These are songs of the future shaped by the Era of Great Reflection 2020-2027.

The Era of Great Reflection 2020-2027.

The Corona Crisis flattened the curve of populist politics in North America. The global depression in the early 2020's activated the tipping point



for new governance in some locales. The business as usual political structures had suppressed the new forms of economic value. Political agendas and coloured interpretations of expert opinions had killed too many. Also, blunders by politicians distracted voters from the humanitarian crises of people right in front of them. Data scientists demonstrated that politics and capitalism had killed more people in the 20th century than any health related deaths. The citizens of Montreal decided there was no future expecting politicians to lead through any other kind of systemic crisis.

The COVID Crisis helped people to recognize that they have the means for robust collaborations between citizens, leaders, experts and AI. To remove politicians was to cut out biased middle persons and get the facts directly from the source. As a resource, data scientists provide all that people need to make more ethical policies using international standards. Nobel Prize winners had ideas and evidence that transformed society without the filter of political campaigns. COVID Kids (born between 2015–2030) rallied behind new governance structures that supported collaborative problem solving. For example, they were encouraged by older generations to lead society within Citizens' Reference Panels. Dwayne

is one of thousands of citizen leaders who sits on a Citizens' Reference Panel. These panels are designed for deliberative democracy, to give citizens a hand in shaping the policies that determine their lives. Like the panelists with him, he was selected because he is mindful, selfless, and compassionate.

Once a month he meets with people from around Quebec in a long-form deliberative process to advise leadership about the implications of contentious public issues. He knows that he is not alone in his fears. The Citizen Reference Panels are a Village Town Square in cities that do not have them. In this way, some of the stories that the government and the private sector need to hear come from the public and less through the media. A commitment to protecting something greater than a single individual has removed the middle person and society (in Quebec at least) has accepted the egocentric human mediator no more.

Dwayne's life is a commonly repeated story. He has adapted to complexity by becoming a novice and expert in his own life. He is a novice and expert in community leadership. He is curious and comfortable with uncertainty. He sees growing up with uncertainty a gift that makes him the best contributor to the planet that he can be.

Maggie Greyson, Canada, NGFP award North America 2018 - Maggie is an award winning designer and futurist from Canada recognized for Making Futures Present, a technique to help people reflect on the meaningful contribution they want to make in their lives.

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“After working from home became the norm in the 2020's converted office towers became live/work/nourish studios for employees and their families.”



USA in 2050 - Appalachian revival

by Alanna Markle

Systemic shifts (key words): *Green economy; De-urbanisation & housing; Sustainable living, Borderless world, Economic democracy*

I kneel in the shadow of the late summer sunflowers, the garden's dancing matriarchs, and my trowel pushes easily into the rich soil. This communal garden belongs to the co-housing community of which I am a member, and its abundance is enough to keep our tables colourful through much of the year; our surplus feeds the state's fresh food redistribution networks, a component of its strong and diversified social safety net. This garden and its home community are among many that flourish on former mountaintop removal coal mining sites that were revitalised through a sweep of determined reclamation projects.

Appalachia's coal-based economy is now a distant memory, though many aspects of its

unique cultural heritage and strong sense of self-sufficiency and community have survived and been enriched by an influx of new residents. Its music in particular has enjoyed a revival that eschewed the outmoded themes that once held it back and it now reflects the diverse and vibrant new community. On a summer evening like this one, the voice of one of our community's many musicians is usually on the air. West Virginia is among the states that benefited from a wave of de-urbanisation in the US, which was enabled by the widespread shift toward remote high-skilled work and further accelerated by a young generation who both yearned for more proximity to nature and was imbued by a fear of straying far from home, thanks to the COVID-19 pandemic. Advances in

virtual reality socialisation platforms have made the dramatic reduction of face-to-face meetings far less problematic than it once was, on both the professional and personal front, but for those of us who prefer it, location flexibility has also meant physical proximity to friends and family.

The fractious impacts of the gentrification that inevitably accompanied this trend and the pressures on budgets, housing and infrastructure has been eased, thanks in no small part to a new openness to creative redistribution policies that followed the Second Great Depression of 2020-2023. Co-housing became central to the solution, and for years my husband and I have spent half the year here, close to my family, and the other half in a similar community in his native UK. Other families fill our places when the properties lay fallow. This kind of shared, flexible housing arrangements between states and even countries is now standard, and global tax regimes adjusted accordingly. The technological revolution in low- to no-carbon, high-speed travel also means that we have had the privilege of keeping a foot in our birth homes, while still finding regular opportunities to visit the soul home where we met, South Africa.

Following the Depression, most had to re-envision their careers. Contracted employment and lifelong learning became the norm, and accelerated automation and digitisation meant many jobs that were lost simply never came back. We have likewise faced fallow periods, but over the years have found coherence and fulfilment in our evolving careers, and as a two-country household with a strong sense of connection and community.

Alanna Markle, USA, NGFP award for National Policy, 2019 - Alanna is a foresight analyst with a background in international development who came to the field through the Frederick S. Pardee Center for International Futures at the University of Denver. She is a West Virginia native, but has lived and worked in Latin America, Africa and Europe.

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“West Virginia is among the states that benefited from a wave of de-urbanisation in the US, which was enabled by the widespread shift toward remote high-skilled work and further accelerated by a young generation who both yearned for more proximity to nature and was imbued by a fear of straying far from home, thanks to the COVID-19 pandemic.”





SYSTEMIC SHIFTS

- Future of Africa, education & learning, national identity
- Health systems, time travel
- Future of Africa, economic transformation & entrepreneurial innovation, public service delivery
- Participatory governance & citizen engagement, collective visioning & "tomorrowlands", education
- Mobility, transport, robotics/AI, human centered design: integrated networks, global identity
- Ontological shifts, non-human agency, more-than-human worlds, futures of design
- Rights of future generations, mental health, green recovery & biodiversity, climate change
- Community innovation & citizen engagement, digital transformation
- Sustainable living & circular economy, borderless world, EU leadership, digital transition, new work, futures literacy
- Multilateralism, digitalization, new work
- New governance, smart cities, self agency
- Green economy, de-urbanisation & housing, sustainable living, borderless world, economic democracy

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS: The stories go on

The main message of this Futures Manifesto is clear: every crisis is an opportunity for positive, systemic change. It believes that building a better tomorrow starts with unlocking your creativity in imagining positive future narratives, and using these narratives to spark and inform forward-looking planning and action today. Therefore, this collection of positive futures stories only fulfils its purpose as a Manifesto if it inspires reflection and action by its readers.

Let your thinking and action be guided by the following questions:

- Which preferred future would you like to see unfold? What does this future look like for communities like yours?
- Which story would you tell, immersing yourself in the future(s) of 2050?
- Can you begin to define your role in shaping your preferred future(s), in your part of the world? As an individual, a community or an organisation?
- What skills or assets do you have to offer?
- Who do you need to connect and work with?
- What are the barriers to achieving positive change, and how might you overcome them?
- What technologies do you need to make use of?

The Futures Manifesto is designed to grow and evolve, capturing and understanding progress and disruption in the context of future shocks and systemic transformations beyond the current global pandemic. It is a living document on stories of the future, a future we all want to be part of.

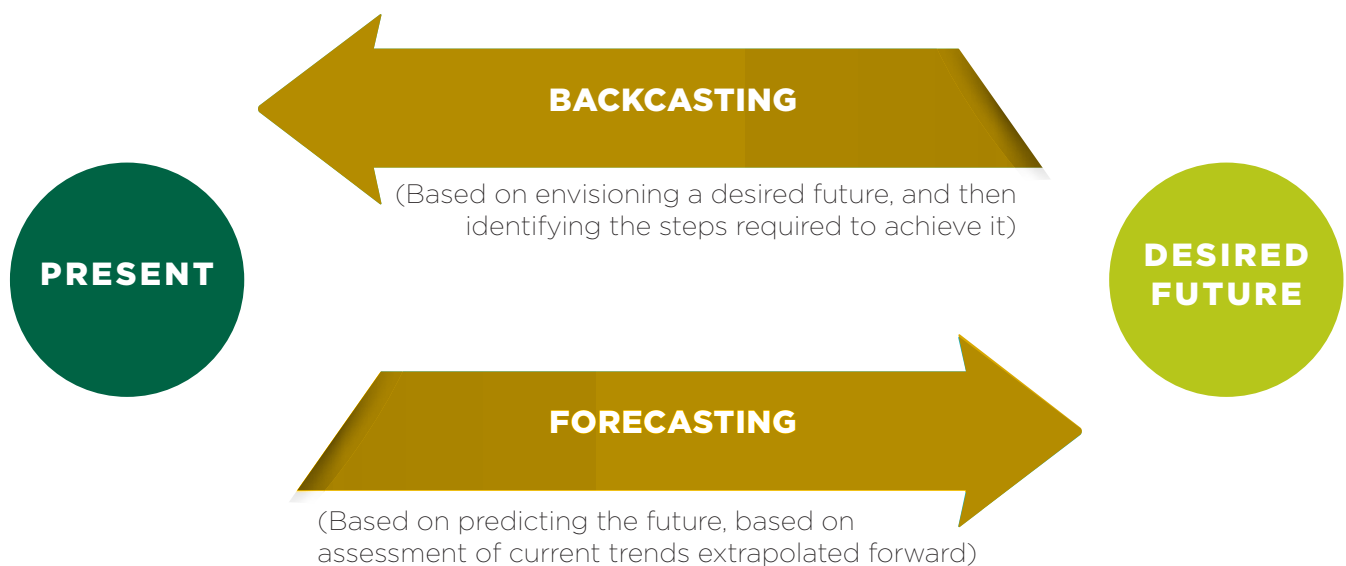
For more information on the Next Generation Foresight Practitioners network, other network activities or the award, please contact Sophie Middlemis - sophie@soif.org.uk

BACKCASTING: How it works

Backcasting starts with defining a desirable future - in this case, an Ambition Statement grounded in a NGFP short change story, or combination of stories.

It then works backwards to identify policies and programs that will connect the longer term ambition to a shorter term present.

The core question backcasting asks: "If we want to attain a certain goal, what actions must be taken in the short, medium and long term to get there?"



ANNEX

We find the exercise of 'Backcasting' to be useful in defining actions and developing a roadmap towards a positive outcome. Simply put, if forecasting is projecting ahead from where you are now, backcasting involves starting with where you want to be. Use the template below to articulate a 2050 ambition, followed by an (honest) diagnosis of where you are today in relation to that goal. Work right to left to establish a series of milestones, and associated actions or barriers.

We welcome the submission of any completed templates to Sophie Middlemiss, Next Generation Foresight Award - sophie@soif.org.uk

BACKCASTING

OVERALL AMBITION					
ORGANIZATION / PART OF ORGANISATION	WHERE WE ARE TODAY	← HOW DO WE GET THERE?			2050 AMBITION
		2020-2025	2025-2030	2030-2035	

WORLD MAP



CANADA

New governance, smart cities, self agency

USA

De-urbanisation & housing, sustainable living, borderless world, economic democracy

WALES

Rights of future generations, mental health, green recovery & biodiversity, climate change

UNITED KINGDOM

Community innovation & citizen engagement, digital transformation

NETHERLANDS / THE WORLD

Sustainable living & circular economy, borderless world, EU leadership, digital transition, new work, futures literacy

EUROPE / THE WORLD

Multilateralism, digitalization, new work

NIGERIA

Future of Africa, education & learning, national identity, health systems, time travel

SOUTH AFRICA

Future of Africa, economic transformation & entrepreneurial innovation, public service delivery

INDIA

Mobility, transport, robotics/AI, human centered design, integrated networks, global identity

BANGLADESH

Participatory governance & citizen engagement, collective visioning & 'tomorrowlands', education

AUSTRALIA

Ontological shifts, non-human agency, more-than-human worlds, futures of design