

Climate Futures

Exploring the social response to climate change

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Preparing organizations for climate change....

- In the next 10-20 years, the social, political and economic response of humanity will probably be more disruptive than the direct environmental impacts.
- HP Labs and Forum for the Future have worked together to develop scenarios of *how things might be different because of climate change*.

Methodology

- Interview around 50 diverse experts, and carry out a literature review.
- Identify key *factors* which influence humanity's response to climate change.
- Look at how those factors are now, and how they may change over time: 2012, 2020, 2030. Create a tree of worlds.
- Choose key worlds in 2030 to develop further through workshops.

Arnie World

People unwilling to change behaviour.

Innovation primarily around *supply and efficiency*.

Despite increasingly tight carbon constraints, innovation succeeds in keeping prices stable.

Economies continue to grow, esp. in developing world.

Resource constraints begin to bite.



Re-Function World

Driven partly by change in *attitudes* and partly by *carbon pricing*, businesses find alternative ways of meeting people's needs.

Supply-side innovation not enough to keep carbon price low. Particularly impacts transportation.

Fundamental priorities unchanged; how they are met does change.



Redefining Progress

Economic and social *resilience* is a higher policy priority than growth.

Well-being and quality of life a higher personal priority than consumption.

Post-consumerist, not post-capitalist.

Informal economy important.

Policies attempt to influence people's *wants*.



Environmental War Economy Footing

Major action on climate change by states and people.

‘State rationalism’: Market alone considered inadequate. State intervention used to restructure society to be more ‘carbon efficient’.

Eg: deliver-and-microwave food; major restriction on car use; delivery network rationalization; intrusive appliance control



Protectionist World

Resource shortages and expected future climate impacts erode international community.

Focus on local/regional adaptation rather than mitigation.

Conflicts over resources; humanitarian impacts of climate change magnified by poor international management of refugees.

