Our Society and Lifestyles in 2050

Challenges and Opportunities from the “Global Foresight Expert Survey of Potential Changes in Society and Lifestyles in 2050”

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Outline

1. Introduction to the Global Foresight Study Expert Survey
2. Results from Culture and Social Norms and Governance
3. Results from Economy and Technology
4. Results from Environment and Demography
5. Challenges and Opportunities Ahead in Future Lifestyles
Introduction

• Society and lifestyles are expected to drastically change by 2050. These changes should be incorporated when developing long-term policy and strategic planning towards sustainable future

Objective

• To understand the future lifestyles between now and 2050 through a business as usual lens with a mixture of optimistic and pessimistic views to explore different options and possibilities based on collective thinking of foresight studies experts.

• To interpret the future lifestyles foresights from wellbeing and environmental footprint perspectives to inform researchers, policy-makers and practitioners on promoting sustainable lifestyles.

An online ad-hoc expert survey (co-implemented with UNEP) to hear from 137 foresight study experts in global scale on society, daily living and roles of stakeholders
Results from Culture and Social Norms and Governance

1. Towards Environmental Orientation
2. Towards Individual Wellbeing
3. Survivalist Nature with Anxiety and Uncertainty
4. Widening Inequality and Youth
5. Coping with a Fast Changing World

Source: Authors based on the Global Foresight Survey of Potential Changes in Society and Lifestyles by 2050.
Results from Economy and Technology

6. **Technology Innovation** in Economic Infrastructure

7. Triggering **New Economic Paradigm**

8. **Expanded Role of Technology** in Daily Living

Source: Authors based on the Global Foresight Survey of Potential Changes in Society and Lifestyles by 2050.
9. Catastrophic Ecological Pressure

10. Mass Climate Change Migration

Source: Authors based on the Global Foresight Survey of Potential Changes in Society and Lifestyles by 2050.
Challenges and Opportunities Ahead in Future Lifestyles

1. Widening Gaps Between Aspirations of Individuals and the Foresighted Future

2. Increased Speed of Changes of Both Physical Infrastructure and People’s Norms

3. More Constraints compared to today

Source: Authors based on the Global Foresight Survey of Potential Changes in Society and Lifestyles by 2050.
Thank you!

In the forthcoming report, there will be analysis on nine lifestyles domains (food, consumption of manufactured goods, mobility, housing, work, education, leisure, health and social connections and relationships) from wellbeing and environmental footprint perspective.

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Source: Authors based on the Global Foresight Survey of Potential Changes in Society and Lifestyles by 2050.