

The Millennium Project Global Futures Intelligence System www.THEMP.ORG

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Compelling overview of humanity's situation, potentials for our future, and what we should to do today – in clear, precise, and readable text with unparalleled breadth and depth



247 pages paperback with 50 graphs and tables ISBN: 978-0-9882639-1-8 Library of Congress: 98-646672 Price: \$39.95 Publication date: April 15, 20014 Kindle available from Amazon, and download at www.StateofTheFuture.org

This "report card on the future of the world" is the accumulated intelligence over 17 years from more than 4,500 futurists, business planners, scholars, and other thought leaders selected by 50 Nodes of The Millennium Project around the world.

The most influential annual report on what we know about the future of humanity Paul Werbos, National Science Foundation Invaluable insights into the future

Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary-General

2013-14 State of the Future shows that the world is improving better than most pessimists know, but future dangers are worse than most optimists indicate. The global situation for humanity continues to improve in general, but at the expense of the environment. People around the world are becoming healthier, wealthier, better educated, more peaceful, and increasingly connected, and they are living longer. The child mortality rate has dropped 47% since 1990, extreme poverty in the developing world fell from 50% in 1981 to 21% in 2010, primary school completion rates grew from 81% in 1990 to 91% in 2011, only one transborder war occurred in 2013, nearly 40% of humanity is connected via the Internet, and life expectancy has increased ten years over the past twenty years to reach 70.5 years today.

However, water tables are falling on all continents, intrastate conflicts and refugee numbers are increasing, glaciers are melting, income gaps are increasingly obscene, coral reefs are dying, ocean acidity is increasing, ocean dead zones have doubled every decade since the 1960s, half the world's topsoil has been destroyed, youth unemployment has reached dangerous proportions, traffic jams and air pollution are strangling cities, \$1–1.6 trillion is paid in bribes, organized crime takes in twice the money per year as all military budgets combined, civil liberties are increasingly threatened, and half of the world is potentially unstable.

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Staff: Jerome C. Glenn, Exec. Dir.; Elizabeth Florescu, Research Dir.; Wes Boyer, Chief Information Officer; Kelley Glenn, Exec. Assistant; Hayato Kobayashi, Research Asst.; John Young, Senior Associate. Current Sponsors: Azerbaijan State Economic University; Azerbaijan Ministry of Communications; Egyptian Academy of Scientific Research and Technology; and the Rockefeller Foundation. In-kind: CIM Engineering, Google, Smithsonian Institution, UNESCO, and World Future Society. Massive transitions from isolated subsistence agriculture and industrial economies to an emerging global Internet–connected pluralistic civilization are occurring at unprecedented speed and uncertainties. Monitoring major indicators of progress from health and education to water and energy shows we are winning more than we are losing—but where we are losing is very serious. After seventeen years of continuous monitoring of global change as documented in the annual State of the Future reports, it is clear that humanity has the ideas and resources to address its global challenges, but it has not yet shown the leadership, policies, and management on the scale necessary to guarantee a better future.

The report distills insights on 15 global Challenges and strategies to address each. Some of the recommendations in the report include:

- US-China 10-year environmental security goal to reduce climate change and improve trust
- Growing meat without growing animals to reduce water demand and GHGs
- Seawater agriculture for biofuels, carbon sink, food without rain
- Global collective intelligence systems input for humanity's long-range strategic plans
- Tele-nations connecting brains overseas to the development process back home
- TransInstitutions for more effective implementation of strategies
- A global counter-organized-crime strategy
- State of the Future Index as better alternative to GDP a measure of progress

This is the 17th *State of the Future* report produced by The Millennium Project – a global participatory think tank with 50 Nodes around the world. It was selected to be among the top 10 think tanks in the world for new ideas and paradigms by the 2013 University of Pennsylvania's GoTo Think Tank Index and as a 2012 Computerworld Honors Laureate for its innovations to collective intelligence systems.

This report is for thought leaders, decisionmakers, and all those who care about the world and its future. Readers will learn how their interests fit into the global situation and how the global situation may affect them and their interests. It has an executive summary, State of the Future Index, assessment of 15 Global Challenges, Global Futures Intelligence System, and more. This is both a readable book and a resource report to keep on your desk.

For more information see: http://millennium-project.org/millennium/201314SOF.html