Future Screens Tomorrow Scenes

Singapore

No queues, panic buying or lack of chicken: A quiet first day of Malaysia's export ban for some wet markets

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Problems Lab Session 4

Pledge for a Better Future

June 1, 2022

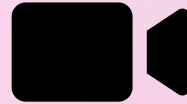# Let's set some ground rules

Zoom Etiquette

Stay muted

Send questions via zoom chat

Turn camera on, if possible
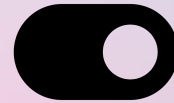
Turn off distractions

We may have staff coming by to take pics in breakout rooms!

Guest Speaker
Dr. Ora-orn Poocharoen

Director, School of Public Policy,
Chiang Mai University

Drivers of change
refers to forces of change whose outcome will likely diverge (e.g. the "why" behind the signals / trends)

Uncertainty =
level of divergence of outcome
Impact =
effect of driver on vulnerable group

Prep work: Choose 1 theme of interest below and read the 2 related drivers of change
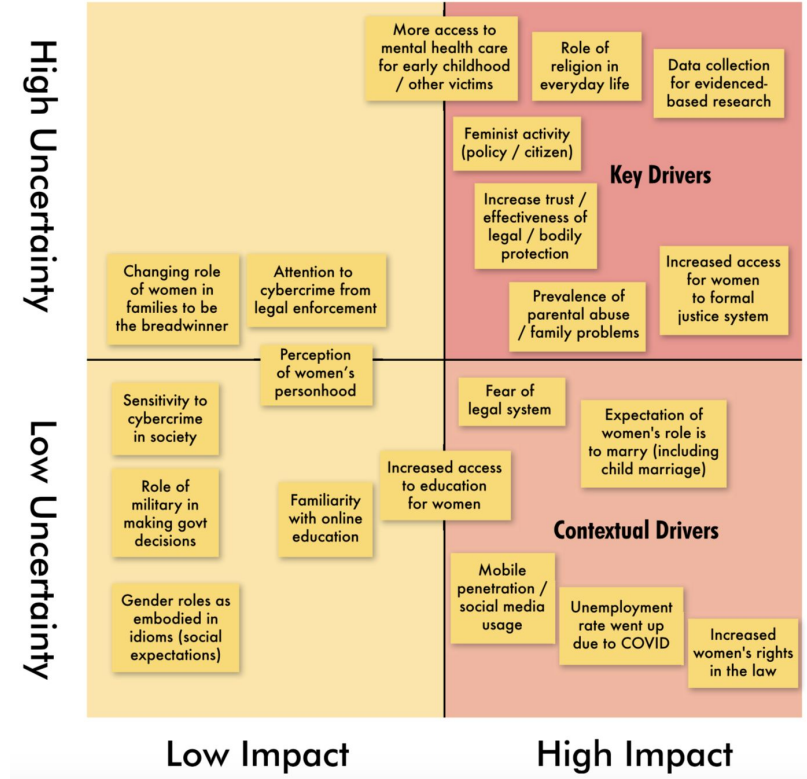
➔ Social interaction
- ◆ Driver A: Growing discrepancy between generations
- ◆ Driver B: More freedom to design social circles

➔ Technological effects on communication
- ◆ Driver C: Roles of technology in communication to affect public perception
- ◆ Driver D: Public gullibility towards misinformation
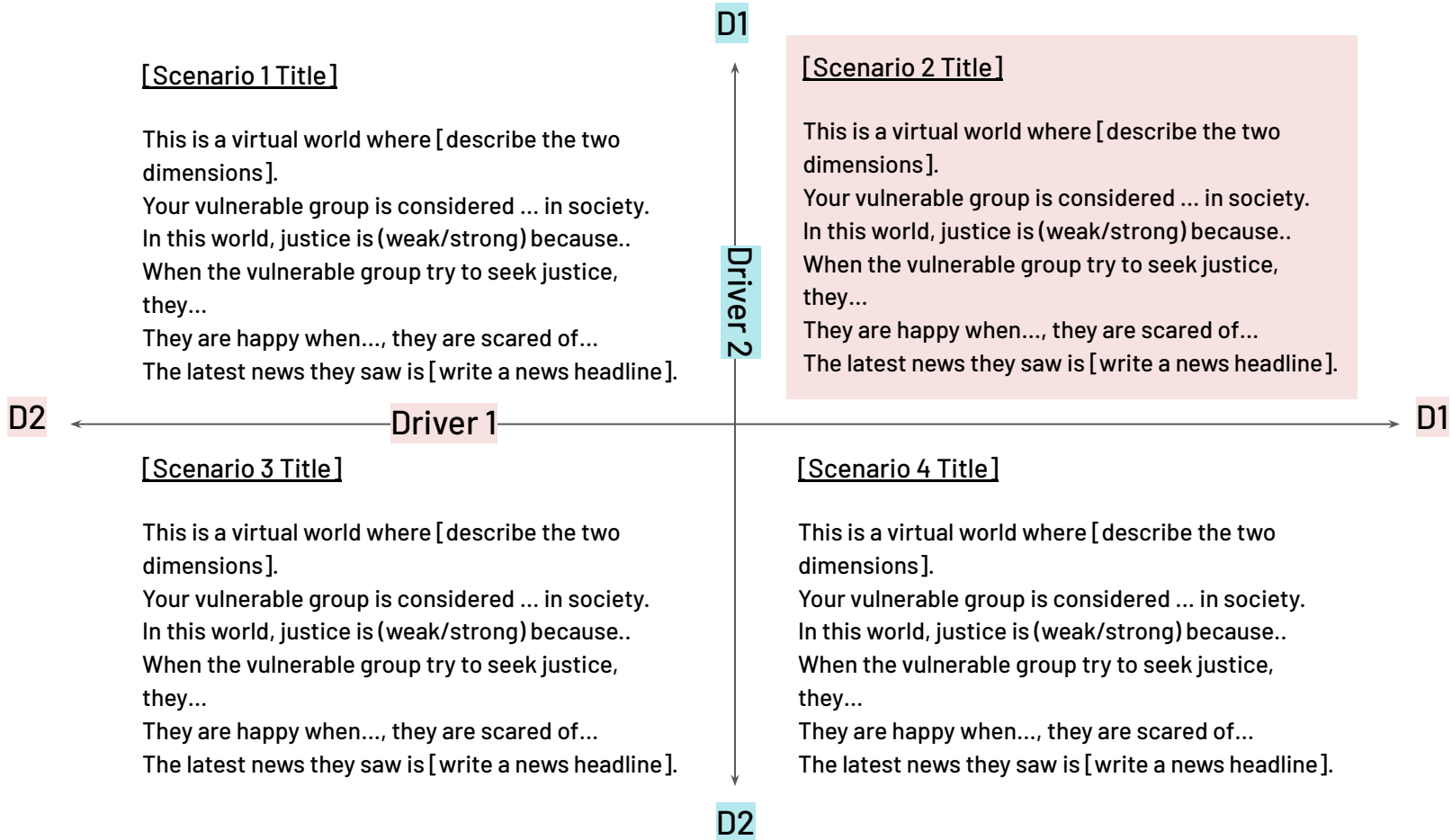
➔ Changing social views
- ◆ Driver E: Changing attitude towards avatars
- ◆ Driver F: Changing personal agency in health decisions

➔ Healthcare
- ◆ Driver G: Environment's direct effects on human health
- ◆ Driver H: Growing urgency in dealing with mental health

➔ Forms of governance
- ◆ Driver I: Societal pressure for better governance
- ◆ Driver J: Ownership of virtual worlds

D1

[Scenario 1 Title]

This is a virtual world where [describe the two dimensions].
Your vulnerable group is considered … in society.
In this world, justice is (weak/strong) because..
When the vulnerable group try to seek justice, they...
They are happy when..., they are scared of...
The latest news they saw is [write a news headline].

[Scenario 2 Title]

This is a virtual world where [describe the two dimensions].
Your vulnerable group is considered … in society.
In this world, justice is (weak/strong) because..
When the vulnerable group try to seek justice, they...
They are happy when..., they are scared of...
The latest news they saw is [write a news headline].

Driver 2

D2 ⟵——— Driver 1 ———⟶ D1

[Scenario 3 Title]

This is a virtual world where [describe the two dimensions].
Your vulnerable group is considered … in society.
In this world, justice is (weak/strong) because..
When the vulnerable group try to seek justice, they...
They are happy when..., they are scared of...
The latest news they saw is [write a news headline].

[Scenario 4 Title]

This is a virtual world where [describe the two dimensions].
Your vulnerable group is considered … in society.
In this world, justice is (weak/strong) because..
When the vulnerable group try to seek justice, they...
They are happy when..., they are scared of...
The latest news they saw is [write a news headline].

D2

Grandma to the Moon

"GRANDMA hits big with her start up and booked her flight to MARS with Elon Musk."

- **This is a world/society where** elders are happily inclusive and digitally savvy.
- **In this world your vulnerable group is considered** COOL, ACCEPTED AND RELATABLE to younger generations.
- **They are happy when** THEY CONNECT WHILE SHARING EXPERIENCE to the younger communities, and **they are most scared of** BEING EXCLUDED, LEFT OUT from what's happening to the world and connect to other generations.
- **The latest news they saw is** GRANDMA hits big with her start up and booked her flight to MARS with Elon Musk.

Problem Lab 2022: Meet the Metaverse

Session	Date	Theme
1	May 11	Introducing the Metaverse
2	May 18 *	Vulnerability in the Seemingly Equal
3	May 25 *	Dealing with Uncertainty
4	June 1 *	Pledge for a Better Future
	June 17	*International Forum*

Foresight as Human-Centered, Iterative Process

| Phase	Description	Tools
Scanning Day 2	Making sense of present and past data to focus on specific line of inquiry based on chosen theme	Mind maps Central question Futures wheel Historical backcasting Expert interviews
Foresighting Day 3	Identifying key drivers of change and creating possible future scenarios	Key drivers Scenario matrix
Strategising Day 4	Designing active interventions to ensure a desirable future outcome	Winners & Losers Futurecast map

Session 4 Agenda

Recap:
Extra team time

Activity:
Postcards from
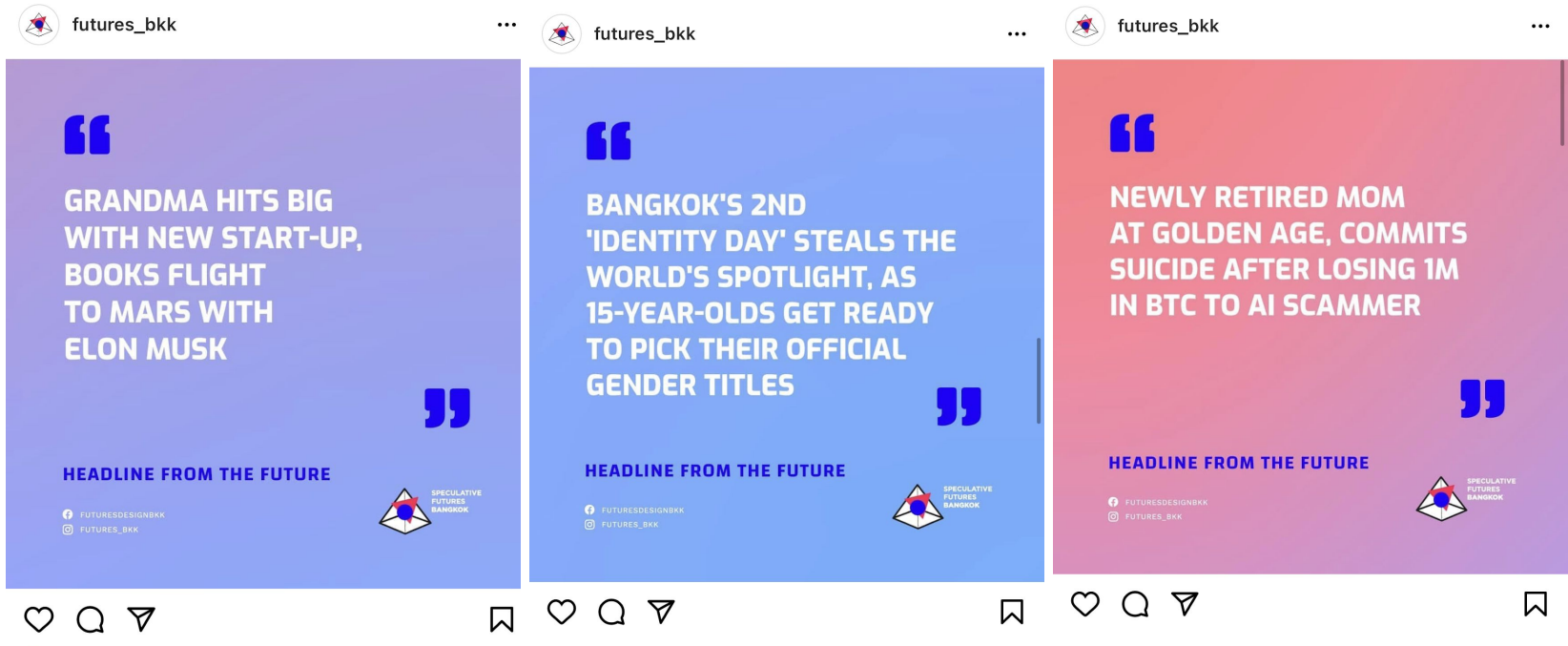the future
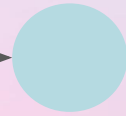
Reflection:
Pledge for
the Future

Share-out +
Wrap-up!

Extra team time (10 mins)

1. Refine your vulnerable group
2. Complete the description for the <u>desirable scenario</u>
3. Write a catchy headline within that desirable scenario

There are no facilitators today, but our team member has left some comments on your slides to help guide your team

Examples of provocative headlines from last year!

futures_bkk

> GRANDMA HITS BIG WITH NEW START-UP, BOOKS FLIGHT TO MARS WITH ELON MUSK

HEADLINE FROM THE FUTURE

FUTURESDESIGNBKK
FUTURES_BKK

SPECULATIVE FUTURES BANGKOK

futures_bkk

> BANGKOK'S 2ND 'IDENTITY DAY' STEALS THE WORLD'S SPOTLIGHT, AS 15-YEAR-OLDS GET READY TO PICK THEIR OFFICIAL GENDER TITLES

HEADLINE FROM THE FUTURE

FUTURESDESIGNBKK
FUTURES_BKK

SPECULATIVE FUTURES BANGKOK

futures_bkk

> NEWLY RETIRED MOM AT GOLDEN AGE, COMMITS SUICIDE AFTER LOSING 1M IN BTC TO AI SCAMMER

HEADLINE FROM THE FUTURE

FUTURESDESIGNBKK
FUTURES_BKK

SPECULATIVE FUTURES BANGKOK

15

Provocative headlines from this year!

- **"breakthrough discovery in anticipating what people are going to say before they're saying it and read people's mind!"**
Group 8, Teenagers as Heroes

- **"AGAIN but never the last, boys being arrested after broadcasting the fake news on the World War IV"** .
Group 2, Delusional Participation World

- **"CHILD DEPRESSION RATES INCREASING, YOUTH BEING RECRUITED INTO RADICAL GROUPS."**
Group 7, SHEEP IN A FIELD

Extra team time (10 mins)

1. Refine your vulnerable group
2. Complete the description for the <u>desirable scenario</u>
3. Write a catchy headline within that desirable scenario

There are no facilitators today, but our team member has left some comments on your slides to help guide your team

Activity:
Postcard of the Future

Vulnerable groups

You

It is 2050.

A big event just happened that made the (future) society more desirable for your vulnerable group.

Your vulnerable group is very happy and sends a postcard to a friend to celebrate this news.

Create a postcard sent by your vulnerable group in the most desirable* scenario in the year 2050

What do future junk mails look like (if we still have mail)?

Source: Junk Mail Machine, 2013, Extrapolation Factory

Your postcards could be in any form! Here are some creative ideas
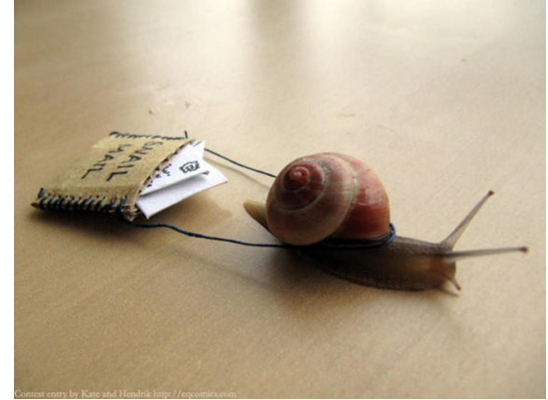
Example: Grandma to the moon

Dear Noom (her son),

I have some great news!! You heard that NASA has a programme for the over 60s right??? Well, I got in!!

We are going to be trained and prep for our mission to the moon!!!!! The training is going well and I'm making loads of new friends, learning cool stuff like float in the air and how to go to the toilet in space. They have given us a "Virtual Pop-Up" to connect with each other - it's so cool!!!!

Not too worry - so far so good. Just wanted to let you know.

Love you to the moon and back,

Mum :)

This message is written on VIRTUAL POP UP,
it is sent as HOLOGRAM MESSAGE,
it will be received IN REAL-TIME.

Recording from Problem Lab 2021

We'll be right back
10 mins break

Template

1. This message sent to [Type receiver name here], [Type relationship to person here]

2. [Type the message here]

3. This message is written on [Type (a.) the medium of the message here],
it is sent by [Type (b.) the delivery method here].

In your teams (15 mins)

1. Create a postcard sent by your vulnerable group in the most desirable scenario in the year 2050, consider
   A. Who are they celebrating this news with?
   B. What is the message?
   C. What might this postcard look like?

2. Select a representative to present / perform the postcard (2 mins / team)

Share your postcards!

What is your future role
as an individual and organization
to prevent injustices in cyberspace?

What is the vision set out by the Well-being of Future Generations Act? −

The Well-being of Future Generations Act sets in law a common national vision for well-being in Wales. It introduces the four dimensions of well-being (environmental, social, cultural and economic) which paint a holistic picture of well-being in Wales. To provide further detail of the vision of well-being in Wales, the law also introduces the seven well-being goals, which frame the social, economic, cultural and environmental dimensions. The Act includes a detailed description of each well-being. Their definition is part of the law and it cannot be changed. The goals are a holistic set of seven and should not be considered in isolation.

What is the role of the Future Generations Commissioner? −

The Commissioner's main role is to help public bodies change their behaviours and follow the new requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations Act to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of the people of Wales. The duty of the Commissioner, as specified in the law, is to promote the sustainable development principle (which states that public bodies should try to make sure that the needs of current generations are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs). She must act as the guardian of future generations needs and help public bodies to think long term. To do this, she can give advice to the public bodies listed in the Act , the Auditor General for Wales (who must conduct at least one examination per 5-year cycle on how each public body has acted in accordance with the sustainable development principle), groups of public bodies called Public Services Boards , or to any other person who can contribute to the seven well-being goals or help improve well-being in. The Act applies to specific public bodies, which have to set and publish their own well-being objectives that maximise contribution to the seven well-being goals. The Commissioner has to monitor and assess the extent to which public bodies meet these well-being objectives.

COVID-19 Shifts

With a protracted crisis, Singapore's operating environment will change significantly. The world will be operating in a perpetual pandemic mode, and recovery will be long and challenging. Enough time would have elapsed to result in human adaptation to the COVID-19 situation in the form of new economic and social structures, rules and norms.

What might the environment look like, after a pandemic of a year or more?

Serving Suggestions

*most applicable to strategic planning units in public and people sectors

Challenge assumptions
What reactions do I have when reading the assessment: does it resonate, or do I reject it, and why? What strategies in my portfolio today will be least ready for these shifts?

Prioritise action
Which assessments are most feared, or will have the highest impact, and which render further study sooner than others?
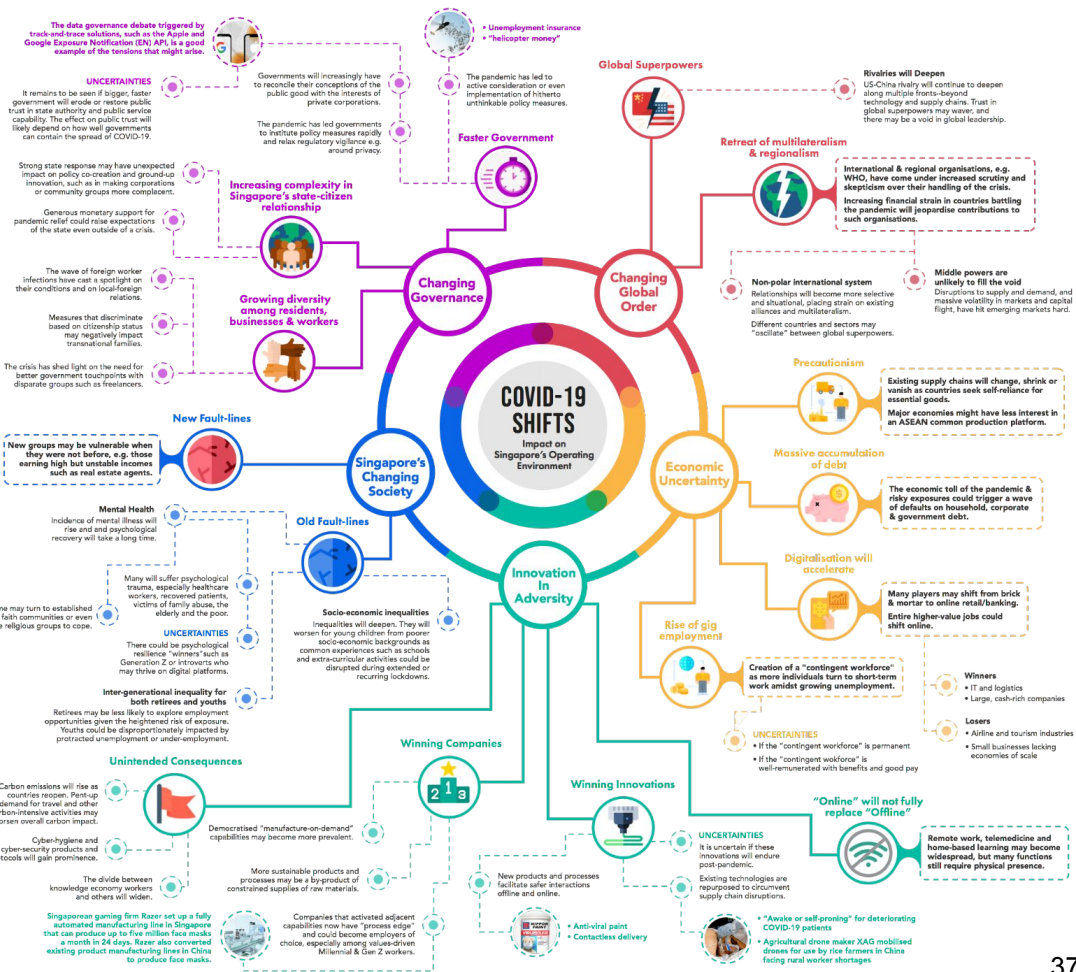
Generate new lines of inquiry and signposts
Is there sufficient information? Should we commission a deep dive for further study? What are the uncertainties that lead up to this trajectory, and how can we monitor them as markers of change or branching points?

Signposts
These can be events, thresholds, trends or patterns. They gauge the extent to which a particular scenario has materialised, helping decision-makers update their thinking.

CSF
CENTRE FOR STRATEGIC FUTURES

Centre for Strategic Futures (CSF) was established in 2009, and since July 2015 has been part of Strategy Group in the Prime Minister's Office. CSF is a focal point for futures thinking within the Singapore Government and seeks to support a Public Service that operates strategically in a complex and fast-changing environment.

COVID-19 SHIFTS
Impact on Singapore's Operating Environment

Changing Governance

Faster Government
The data governance debate triggered by track-and-trace solutions, such as the Apple and Google Exposure Notification (EN) API, is a good example of the tensions that might arise.

- Unemployment insurance
- "helicopter money"

Governments will increasingly have to reconcile their conceptions of the public good with the interests of private corporations.

The pandemic has led to active consideration or even implementation of hitherto unthinkable policy measures.

The pandemic has led governments to institute policy measures rapidly and relax regulatory vigilance e.g. around privacy.

UNCERTAINTIES
It remains to be seen if bigger, faster government will erode or restore public trust in state authority and public service capability. The effect on public trust will likely depend on how well governments can contain the spread of COVID-19.

Increasing complexity in Singapore's state-citizen relationship
Strong state response may have unexpected impact on policy co-creation and ground-up innovation, such as in making corporations or community groups more complacent.

Generous monetary support for pandemic relief could raise expectations of the state even outside of a crisis.

Growing diversity among residents, businesses & workers
The wave of foreign worker infections have cast a spotlight on their conditions and on local-foreign relations.

Measures that discriminate based on citizenship status may negatively impact transnational families.

The crisis has shed light on the need for better government touchpoints with disparate groups such as freelancers.

Changing Global Order

Global Superpowers

Rivalries will Deepen
US-China rivalry will continue to deepen along multiple fronts–beyond technology and supply chains. Trust in global superpowers may waver, and there may be a void in global leadership.

Retreat of multilateralism & regionalism
International & regional organisations, e.g. WHO, have come under increased scrutiny and skepticism over their handling of the crisis.
Increasing financial strain in countries battling the pandemic will jeopardise contributions to such organisations.

Middle powers are unlikely to fill the void. Disruptions to supply and demand, and massive volatility in markets and capital flight, have hit emerging markets hard.

Non-polar international system
Relationships will become more selective and situational, placing strain on existing alliances and multilateralism.
Different countries and sectors may "oscillate" between global superpowers.

Economic Uncertainty

Precautionism
Existing supply chains will change, shrink or vanish as countries seek self-reliance for essential goods.
Major economies might have less interest in an ASEAN common production platform.

Massive accumulation of debt
The economic toll of the pandemic & risky exposures could trigger a wave of defaults on household, corporate & government debt.

Digitalisation will accelerate
Many players may shift from brick & mortar to online retail/banking.
Entire higher-value jobs could shift online.

Innovation In Adversity

Rise of gig employment
Creation of a "contingent workforce" as more individuals turn to short-term work amidst growing unemployment.

Winners
- IT and logistics
- Large, cash-rich companies

Losers
- Airline and tourism industries
- Small businesses lacking economies of scale

UNCERTAINTIES
- If the "contingent workforce" is permanent
- If the "contingent workforce" is well-remunerated with benefits and good pay

Winning Companies
Democratised "manufacture-on-demand" capabilities may become more prevalent.

More sustainable products and processes may be a by-product of constrained supplies of raw materials.

Singaporean gaming firm Razer set up a fully automated manufacturing line in Singapore that can produce up to five million face masks a month in 24 days. Razer also converted existing product manufacturing lines in China to produce face masks.

Companies that activated adjacent capabilities now have "process edge" and could become employers of choice, especially among values-driven Millennial & Gen Z workers.

Winning Innovations
New products and processes facilitate safer interactions offline and online.

- Anti-viral paint
- Contactless delivery

UNCERTAINTIES
It is uncertain if these innovations will endure post-pandemic.
Existing technologies are repurposed to circumvent supply chain disruptions.

"Online" will not fully replace "Offline"
Remote work, telemedicine and home-based learning may become widespread, but many functions still require physical presence.

- "Awake or self-proning" for deteriorating COVID-19 patients
- Agricultural drone maker XAG mobilised drones for use by rice farmers in China facing rural worker shortages.

Singapore's Changing Society

New Fault-lines
New groups may be vulnerable when they were not before, e.g. those earning high but unstable incomes such as real estate agents.

Mental Health
Incidence of mental illness will rise and and psychological recovery will take a long time.
Many will suffer psychological trauma, especially healthcare workers, recovered patients, victims of family abuse, the elderly and the poor.
Some may turn to established faith communities or even fringe religious groups to cope.

UNCERTAINTIES
There could be psychological resilience "winners" such as Generation Z or introverts who may thrive on digital platforms.

Old Fault-lines

Socio-economic inequalities
Inequalities will deepen. They will worsen for young children from poorer socio-economic backgrounds as common experiences such as schools and extra-curricular activities could be disrupted during extended or recurring lockdowns.

Inter-generational inequality for both retirees and youths
Retirees may be less likely to explore employment opportunities given the heightened risk of exposure. Youths could be disproportionately impacted by protracted unemployment or under-employment.

Unintended Consequences
Carbon emissions will rise as countries reopen. Pent-up demand for travel and other carbon-intensive activities may worsen overall carbon impact.

Cyber-hygiene and cyber-security products and protocols will gain prominence.

The divide between knowledge economy workers and others will widen.

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Activity:
Pledge for a better future

What can *I* do today?

Individually (5 mins)

Come up with an action or policy to support the vulnerable group, by completing this google form

https://forms.gle/Q2uRYGRUXQB
EXTym7

05:00

Dear Problem Lab Community,

I understand that the future is not something that just happens to us, but something we create.

In my current role, I strive to _____ and this is how I make the world a better place. Therefore, the action I can commit to is _____.

I acknowledge that this action is something I'm able to do, making use of resources I currently have access to.

One obstacle to taking action that I foresee is _____ and I might be able to overcome this by_____.

The first step I would take is _____.

I hope that my action would bring about a future where_____.

Name ____

In small groups (10 mins)

1. Introduce your name (1 min each)

2. Share your pledges
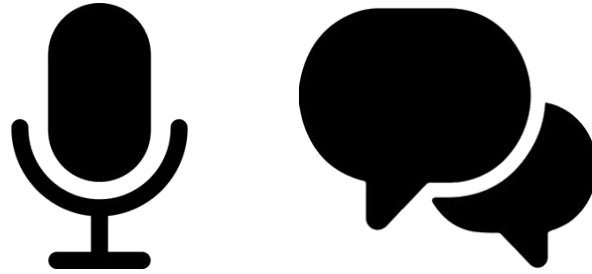
What pledges did you hear?
What was your takeaway from problem lab?

Our Journey through Problem Lab

❏   Explored signals of change

❏   Chose key drivers of change

❏   Created scenario matrices

❏   Created action plans and a pledge for a better future

Our Approach: Strategic Foresight*

Futures thinking is a general term for a design process that explores future uncertainties.

Strategic foresight is a futures thinking method that systematically uses past and present data to

create multiple future scenarios. The key is to use these scenarios to encourage

generative conversations with stakeholders and take concrete steps, today.

The Problem Lab is only a "tasting menu" of the strategic foresight process

Impossible (will not happen)

Possible (might happen)

Plausible (could happen)

Probable (likely to happen)

Time

Present
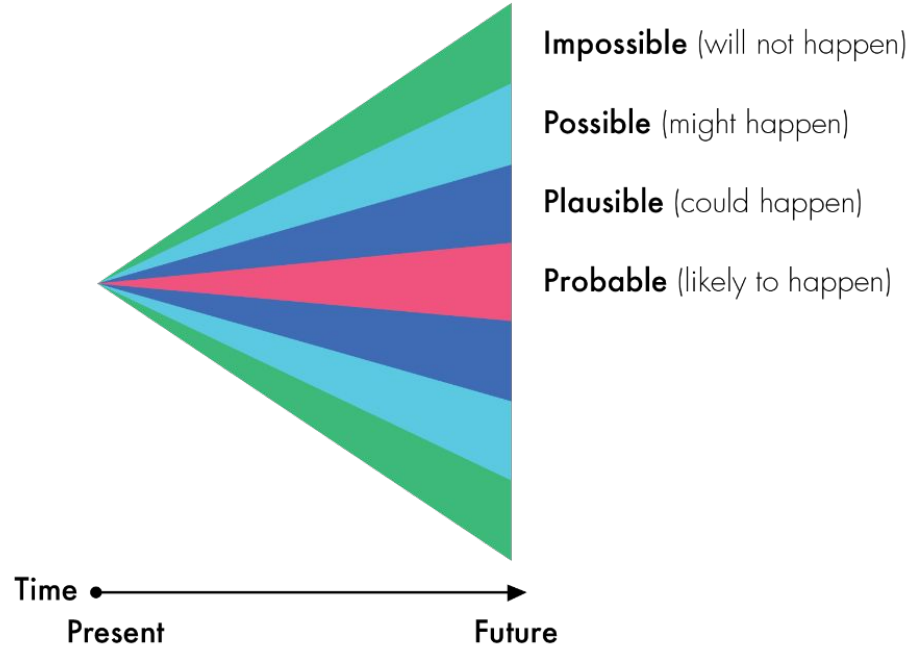
Future

6.6 Sale: A Confidence Flash 50% off

1. This message sent to Nathan, his childhood friend.

2. Dear Nathan,

I have great news. The future is bright for someone like us to finally have the gut to be who you want to be. Thing is, there is this confidence flash, called Big Bang, approved by the FDA. Once you get it, it gives to wings to soar - like literally. It stimulates the neuro-signal in your brain. You suddenly have the courage to talk, voice your opinion, and even debate. People will no longer bullying us. What's even better is that, this flash is not addictive - it's like a treatment. Overtime, you develop your social skills along the way, and before you know it, you are a different person - by gaining the confidence in you.

Don't give up. Your bright future awaits! See you soon.

3. This message is written on a MetaPost,
it is sent by Flash Express Ad Promo.

TIJ Justice Innovation: "Integrating process"

The Futures Thinking Curriculum

Bicentennial Men

Home Sweet Home

Grandma to the Moon

Last year:
The Vulnerables 2050

Presenters at the International Forum (17 June)!

We will email the selected groups:

➔ The selected groups will select 1-2 representatives to either share about one or more of the following topics
  - ◆ Outcome of the process and the scenarios
  - ◆ Reflections on foresight process
  - ◆ Reflections on what's next
➔ The format will be a Q&A style with our MC Paricha, we will email the questions

**There is no need to create slides, we will use turn the materials the group made into slides

Please give us feedback on today's session! (5 mins)

https://forms.gle/yk2Ri587n4oFB7WR7

Problems Lab Feedback Form

Can we hear about your experience in Problems Lab today?

What is your name? *

Your answer

How do you feel about today's session? *

	1	2	3	4	5	
Very dissatisfied	○	○	○	○	○	Very satisfied

What is something new you have learnt today?

Your answer

Let's take a photo!

"the future is not something that just happens to us, but something we create."

- IFTF

TIJ-IGLP Workshop for Emerging Leaders on the Rule of Law and Policy

6 – 10 June 2022

Thank you for sharing your futures with us.