The World in 2050 (TWI2050.org)

Virtual launch @ UN HLPF on 7 July 2020
Transformations to Achieve the SDGs
Launch @ UN HLPF on 11 July 2018

Digital Revolution and Sustainable Development: Opportunities & Challenges
Launch @ UN HLPF on 12 July 2019

Innovations for Sustainability: Pathways for and efficient and sufficient post-pandemic future
Virtual launch @ UN HLPF on 7 July 2020
Vision: Just and Safe Sustainable Future

One “backcasting” narrative and many transformational pathways

Targets 2050+ →

2030 Agenda ←

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Legitimacy of BAU eroding

Source: After WBGU, 2011
Basic needs, Decent living & Sufficiency

- Service provision (consumption)
- Wellbeing
- Sufficiency corridor
- Overconsumption (obesity)
- Basic needs
- Decent living standards
- Sufficiency
Disruptive End-Use Innovations

Source: Grubler et al., 2018
End-use efficiencies & upstream savings

Energy (all services)
aggr. eff.: 14%
1 EJ saved =
7 EJ primary energy

Water (ex. irrigation)
aggr. eff.: 17%
1 m³ saved =
6 m³ water withdrawn

Materials (ex. steel)
aggr. eff.: 13%
1 ton saved =
8 tons ore mined
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1. The world is at a crossroads – achievement of the 2030 Agenda is possible but requires accelerated action and transformative pathways for sustainable development.

2. The COVID-19 pandemic is a great threat to humanity – but it provides an opportunity for change and innovation toward sustainability.

3. Science, technology, and innovation are at the core of human progress – paradoxically they have also brought about negative impacts. but they also provide solutions.

4. Granular, small-size innovations generally have faster adoption and diffusion – they can enable rapid change, but require sustained investments.

5. Transformative governance is emerging – there is a growing understanding of governance needs for integrated SDG implementation.
Despite the major immediate threat of the COVID-19 coronavirus, there are other delivery systems: The climate crisis is here and also injustice, inequity, and ever-increasing pressure on Earth systems and global commons. Source: TOLES © The Washington Post. Reprinted with permission of ANDREWS MCMEEL SYNDICATION. All rights reserved.
THANK YOU

Innovations for Sustainability
Pathways to an efficient and sufficient post-pandemic future

3rd Report prepared by The World in 2050 initiative

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