

### Exercise I – How might future society be?

The aim of the exercise was to think about the likely direction of global change. The discussion did not end with the selection of one IPCC storyline as the most likely for future society.

Economic emphasis →		Regional emphasis →	
Global Integration ↑	<p><b>A1 storyline</b>  <u>World:</u> market-oriented  <u>Economy:</u> fastest per capita growth  <u>Population:</u> 2050 peak, then decline  <u>Technology:</u> three scenario groups: Fossil-intensive, non-fossil energy sources, balanced across sectors</p>		<p><b>A2 storyline</b>  <u>World:</u> differentiated  <u>Economy:</u> regionally oriented; lowest per capita growth  <u>Population:</u> continuously increasing  <u>Technology:</u> slowest and most fragmented development.</p>
	<p><b>B1 storyline</b>  <u>World:</u> convergent  <u>Economy:</u> service and information-based; lower growth than A1  <u>Population:</u> 2050 peak, then decline (same as A1)  <u>Technology:</u> clean and resource-efficient</p>		<p><b>B2 storyline</b>  <u>World:</u> local solutions  <u>Economy:</u> intermediate growth  <u>Population:</u> continuously increasing at lower rate than A2  <u>Technology:</u> more rapid than A2, less rapid but more diverse than A1 and B1</p>
	← Environmental emphasis		

**Figure 3.** Summary characteristics of the four SRES storylines (Parry et al. 2007).

The following questions were discussed among the workshop participants<sup>1</sup>:

*What will be the major drivers of change?*

Globally the major drivers of change are increase of population, location of population and consumption. Asia will come strongly forward.

*Will there be more power at the global or regional level or will there be more autonomous local communities?*

More power will be at international level. However, other levels remain considerable actors as well and importance of local communities will be recognized more. Cooperation at every level will be important.

*Do you think that environmental or economic change will be the most influential?*

<sup>1</sup> Representatives of Harju and Rapla county governments, Saku municipality, Harju Public Transport Centre, SEI Tallinn

Changes in environment (availability and consumption of resources) will be more influential. Changes in economy will bring along changes in environment and vice versa. Resources will become more expensive (e.g. oil peak is over) and this promotes more sustainable use of them. Motivation for the use of environmentally sustainable technology will be bigger in developing than in developed countries.

*Will there be higher or lower economic growth in the world and in the Target Area?*

Economic growth will vary by regions. E.g. in Asia the growth will be higher, in Europe it will rather slow down, in Estonia – more or less stable, no big leaps forward.

*Will there be more or less environmental awareness in the world and in the Target Area?*

Environmental awareness increases in the world and in Estonia.

*Will there be more or less inequality in the world and in the Target Area?*

Inequality among people increases in the world. Estonia is moving towards more equal society – the Ownership Reform is over, getting rich so quickly than in 1990s not possible. Less inequality also results from the ageing population.