

Exercise 1. How might the future society be?

We ended up following SRES scenario A2.

Does the world (= humans) have willingness to change their behaviour? Future world is a world with fewer resources. Inequality will remain, both locally and between continentals. Technology and utilization of it is also unequally distributed. Lack of resources can lead to conflicts. Globalization will increase the instability inside the nations as well.

In the future there will be a new order for welfare. Present welfare states can regress; simultaneously present 3rd world countries (i.e. China, India) will increase their status. This can lead to more equal share of incomes globally.

Selected scenario A2 will affect central Finland heavily. Present knowhow will come to the end, when both development and manufacturers have moved to foreign countries. On the other hand, there is a solid belief on new innovations. Though, do we have critical mass for new innovations in the county? It may well be so, that some of the jobs are staying in the county due to heavy subvention by the government. Global and local regression has changed the attitudes – economical values rule over the environmental values. The triumph of the county, clean environment including lakes, should be utilized more e.g. for tourism.

Climate policy will affect only when it is strong enough to force people to change their behaviour. Also natural catastrophes that are induced by climate change can make people to change their attitudes and behaviour. Climate policy at present is more ruled by the big countries (USA, China, India, and Russia), they can do whatever they want and we, the small countries need though make our legislation more and stricter. This is not equal burden at the moment. The effect of the small countries is minimal when comparing to bigger countries. However, in the country level we have not given up the hope, yet. Big political changes will be following in the near future.

In Central Finland level, do we still have a chance to be in the frontier of the new technological development? Is the technology still waiting for the change of political attitude toward more climate friendly? Or, are we there yet? Do we have enough support and markets to start investments to green technology? We are on the edge of starting the conversations concerning the regional effects of climate change, both in mitigation and in adaptation.

Climate policy will lead to more compact urban structure. The key question is the economical development. If regression continues, it may also destroy the present achievements in climate policy. Stricter climate policy can also create new kind of development, e. g. local tourism. Also, experience industry will have a potential. A great danger is, that "old way of doing" becomes a luxury, a dream that everybody dreams and only the richest most can achieve. This way the new way of thinking will not develop.

Economic, Social, Demographic and Technological changes in the region (by 2050)

Economy

- structural change is huge, as well as the decrease in production
- unemployment is a big problem
- Tourism sector is not developed enough, it should increase
- lack of capital in Central Finland
- Location is not that good globally.
- Locally the location is in the big crossroad, a good distance from the sea and from the capital area – can we rely on this?
- Global solutions in energy policy will also determine the energy production in central Finland. What will happen to peat?
- Is the quality of life more important a factor in the future, when selecting jobs etc.
- Regression and demographic change will lead to lack of population and lack of skilled (highly educated) people. They'll move to southern Finland.

Technology

- Wood industry will remain in Central Finland. It'll change its form, the new form of wood industry relies on more design and manufactured products, not pulp and timber anymore.
- Present industry will come to an end. Innovative business is rather inactive at the moment, but there is a need and space for that.
- University of Jyväskylä and other schools in the area can work as facilitators in new technology and new innovations.
- Innovation sector should be developed more intensively. There is a need for that.

Demographic

- Will increase and be more centralized to Jyväskylä area
- Countryside will be empty, when the "post war" generations are dead.
- Immigration is possible, but not likely. Helsinki area is more attractive to immigrants at the moment.
- Compact urban structure and centralization of the population can lead to problems e.g. in how cosy people feel their neighbourhoods. This should be taken into account when planning new areas.

Social

- Third sector will be more and more responsible for social wellbeing
- China effect (factories have moved to China) can lead to nationalism – this can lead to increase in valuing the locally made goods.
- Relationships in caretaking are becoming weaker
- Separation between social classes will be more deeper.
- Will there be a rebellion against globalization, or are we closing our societies more and more?
- Poverty cycle is hard to break. Social network is loosening and this creates more problems.

Traffic and housing, challenges and chances

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+	<p>Location of the county is optimal</p> <p>Bio energy</p> <p>New innovations, business on wheels</p> <p>village-based living</p> <p>Production back to the county (wood, textile etc.)</p>
0	<p>Increase in population (35 000 inhabitants in Jyväskylä region)</p> <p>Floods</p>
-	<p>New legislation related to traffic</p> <p>Bicycle roads (what will happen to this infra in the future is no changes in policy are made?)</p> <p>Future of the public transport</p> <p>network of roads (especially village roads) their condition</p> <p>Cosiness of the neighbourhood</p> <p>Service structure and its decrease</p> <p>Need for travelling</p>
--	<p>Country side disperse living</p> <p>Future of the fossil fuels</p>
