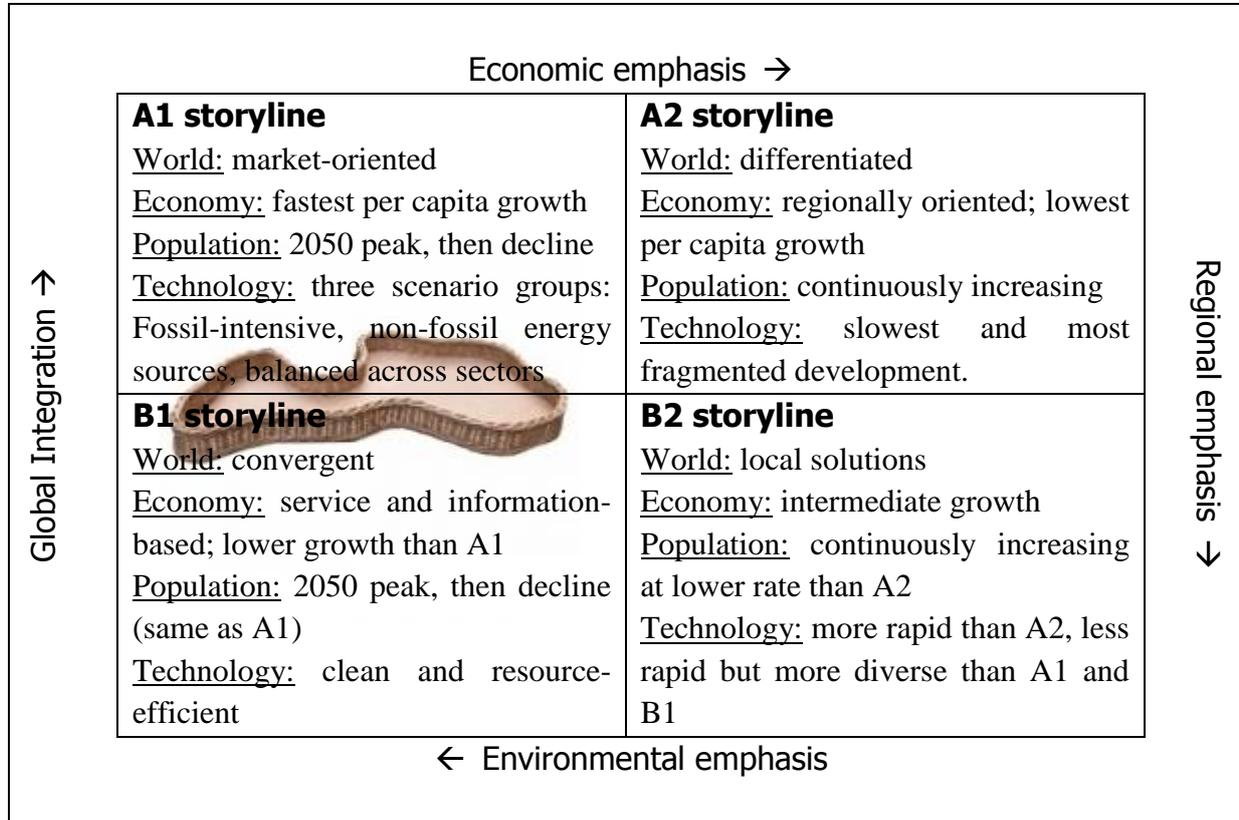


Exercise I – How might future society be?

The expert group members agreed that the world might follow the combined version of the scenarios A1 and B1 (SRES storylines).



Accordingly it will also affect the development pattern regarding the future development over the next 30 – 50 years in Latvia and TA. These patterns are summarized in the table 1.

Table 1. What will happen in Latvia and TA in case of scenarios A1 and B1?

	Latvia	TA	
Land management	→	→	If the quality is the value
Population	→	→	If the area will be economically perspective and stable. Will be attractive for young people to return
Local employment		→	If policy will be towards supporting local production or create new workplaces and attract investment.
Migration due to climate change to Latvia	→	Will not affect	Area is small and it might be socially and culturally difficult for immigrants, therefore big

			cities, like, Riga seems more plausible to attract climate induced immigrants.
Development of environmentally friendly technologies	→	→	Will not be very actual but can be implemented if necessary investments or funds are provided. Area are not industrial, and small scale, solutions are already applied.
Population concentration in cities	→	Exchange ↔	The area might become as weekend house or place to get away from lively life of city after work - place to sleep over (see pattern of migration in spatial map at the end).
Population equality	→	→	TA are not so populated, therefore people in need can be approached.
Economic growth	→	→	Economic growth in world and Latvia, will have impact also on area. The most activity is seen in such areas as tourisms, small scale farming, ecological agriculture.
Unemployment	→	→	If sectors above will be promoted and established, the unemployment rates will go down.

Some additional comments about development patterns in the target area

Economy: The experts agreed that the economy will improve in the next 30-50 years, even though there might be some new economic regression, if the national politics will not support the producers of local goods. The economy in the TA, especially Ligatne, might be strongly influenced, if high speed highway will be built until middle of 2030ties as it is planned at the moment. However political instability and uncertainty makes it difficult to prognoses future economic development. Discussion group members agreed that tourism is extremely important for development of TA and might influence many other factors (employment, income, technological innovations, environmental awareness etc.) if developed. Political support and actions were mentioned many times as driving force for economic growth of region. The priority should be given to local scale, micro (up to 5 people) production.

The social dimension of change. The main conclusion was that there is and will be equality. However gaining population might change situation and social dimension of TA.

Demography. Experts predict that number of people in the TA will increase in the next 30-50 years, because many people have already understood that there is future in rural development. However the local policy is very influential for this factor once again. If the environment for developing business won't have local policy support region might experience population migration to big cities. In other words TA might become a nice place to have weekend-house, but economically and socially passive.

Technology. The location of the TA determines that region will not become industrialized. The existence of Gaujas Nature Park in the territory requires development of small, environmentally friendly, local technologies.

The future factors influencing the implementation cases:

Agriculture:

- Organic or ecological farming is a key to sustain high soil quality. Currently we have mainly primitive or in best case integrated agriculture.
- Value change and increasing public order for ecological, local products will positively influence the development of agricultural practices.
- Farmers' training is another important challenge and chance at the same time. It might increase farmer's capacity to change and diversify their practices.
- Agriculture as many other sectors are related to local policy. If the policy is supportive, development and growth of implementation case has potential in the next 30-50 years.
- The future of agricultural sectors seems interlinked with other aspects. The experts were discussing the pattern of combine activities: agriculture + production and processing of goods + tourism + energy crops

Energy:

- TA agricultural land might be used for cultivation of various energy crops. Unfortunately at the moment only rape is seen and promoted as energy crop.
- Political awareness are needed if we want to develop the cultivation of energy crops
- Forest Residues are good resource and can be exploited more in the TA.
- Waste management is another opportunity for the TA. There are opportunities to expand this sector and create distance heating, therefore make use of resources; however the infrastructure and investments are the critical point. ZAOO biogas;
- Infrastructure and the road network was seen as sufficient, however the quality of roads are very low

- Lack of investments, funds, infrastructure financial and political support, information, communication is seen as one of the most serious challenges to develop region free from fossil fuels.

