

UN Strategic Foresight Newsletter

June 2025



United Nations
Futures Lab
NETWORK



Dear Strategic Foresight Community,

Welcome to the June edition of our Foresight Community newsletter!

Strategic foresight continues to gain momentum across the UN system, with June marking an important milestone during [UN 2.0 Week 2025](#). Day 4 of UN 2.0 Week - "Foresight Day" - brought together colleagues and partners from across regions and sectors to showcase how futures thinking and foresight is being applied in real-world cases – from equity-driven initiatives to scenario planning and systems innovation.

This newsletter features opportunities to revisit and reflect on those shared experiences, including this week's upcoming Community of Practice webinar spotlighting presentations from the [nine UN 2.0 Week 2025 foresight side events](#). We also share new foresight insights from Kenya [through a collaboration](#) between the UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Kenya, UN Futures Lab /Global Hub, and Shujaaz Inc.; explore the role of AI in shaping human development in [UNDP's 2025 Human Development Report](#); and dive into [a participatory foresight session](#) on the future of virtual worlds, hosted at the [2nd UN Virtual Worlds Day](#).

Scroll on to discover tools, training, and people helping to shape a more inclusive, resilient, and future-fit UN!



Subscribe to join the UN Strategic Foresight Community of Practice

Colleagues from Agencies, Funds and Programmes may need to subscribe to be able to access all the links in this newsletter. Allow a couple of hours to be added. Should you still have access issues, please email foresight.community@un.org.

Some links in this newsletter may lead to platforms or resources that are only accessible to UN colleagues. If you are not part of the UN system, these links may not work for you.

🌟 IN THE SPOTLIGHT

12 June 2025 | Virtual

Foresight Day at UN 2.0 Week 2025



[UN 2.0 Week 2025](#) brought together UN colleagues and partners to explore how the [Quintet of Change](#) — data, digital, innovation, behavioural science, and strategic foresight — can deliver real impact across the UN system. [Strategic foresight took centre stage](#) on Thursday, 12 June with a high-level opening panel moderated by the [UN Futures Lab/Global Hub](#), nine foresight-focused side events led by teams from across the UN, and an interactive solutions expo featuring two real-world use cases. From inclusive, feminist, and equity-driven futures to applied foresight in complex systems, institutional innovation and programmatic shifts, the day featured dynamic initiatives led by 15+ UN entities and partners driving foresight into action across the system.

[Read more](#)



EVENTS

3 July 2025 | 9AM EST, 3PM CET

Community of Practice Webinar #26

Delivering Foresight Impact at UN 2.0 Week 2025



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unesco



UN 2.0
Quintet
of Change

UN Strategic Foresight Community of Practice

WEBINAR SERIES | #26

Delivering Foresight Impact at UN 2.0 Week 2025

Join us for an inspiring discussion spotlighting the nine foresight-related side events held during UN 2.0 Week. UN colleagues driving these initiatives will have the opportunity to engage with the broader Foresight Community by providing the space to reflect on key foresight insights that emerged across Foresight Day. With a fast-paced, pitch-style format followed by an open discussion, this session will surface practical insights on how foresight is being embedded into policy, programming, and planning, helping the UN system become more future-fit, inclusive, and adaptive.

[Register here](#)

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

UN Resident Coordinator's Office
Kenya | UN Futures Lab/Global Hub

"Reclaiming Tomorrow: Rebuilding Young People's Faith in the Future"



The [UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Kenya](#) and the [UN Futures Lab/Global Hub](#) collaborated with [Shujaaz Inc.](#), a network of social ventures based in Nairobi and Dar Es Salaam, on a report titled [Reclaiming Tomorrow: Rebuilding Young People's Faith in the Future](#). The report traces how the differing realities faced by the current generation of young Kenyans have shaped their perspectives and attitudes towards the future of Kenya. Drawing from research of more than 2,500 young people across Kenya, the process mapped six groups of young Kenyans, each with different expectations of the future, different priorities, and different needs from the Government. This provided the basis for the Government, UN, and other key stakeholders to form five targeted policy recommendations. Findings from this study are available in a report and documentary format [here](#).

[Read more](#)

World Bank | UN Futures Lab/Global Hub

Envisioning the Future: Scenario Thinking for AI- Powered Virtual Worlds



As part of the [2nd UN Virtual Worlds Day](#), the [World Bank ITS Technology Innovation Office](#) and the [UN Futures Lab/Global Hub](#) hosted a participatory foresight session titled: [Envisioning the Future: Scenario Thinking for AI-Powered Virtual Worlds](#). The session explored how Artificial Intelligence (AI) and virtual technologies can drive sustainable development by reimagining work, jobs, skills, and education of the future. Forty participants from diverse backgrounds engaged and produced 8 artefacts, "Terms of Reference for Tomorrow", which depict future capabilities needed to ensure that AI-powered virtual worlds leave no one behind. Outcomes of this session will contribute to the conference's Call to Action: [AI-Powered Virtual Worlds for Social Development](#), which was launched as an input to the [Second World Summit for Social Development](#).

[Read more](#)

👁️ RECENTLY LAUNCHED

UNDP

"2025 Human Development Report"

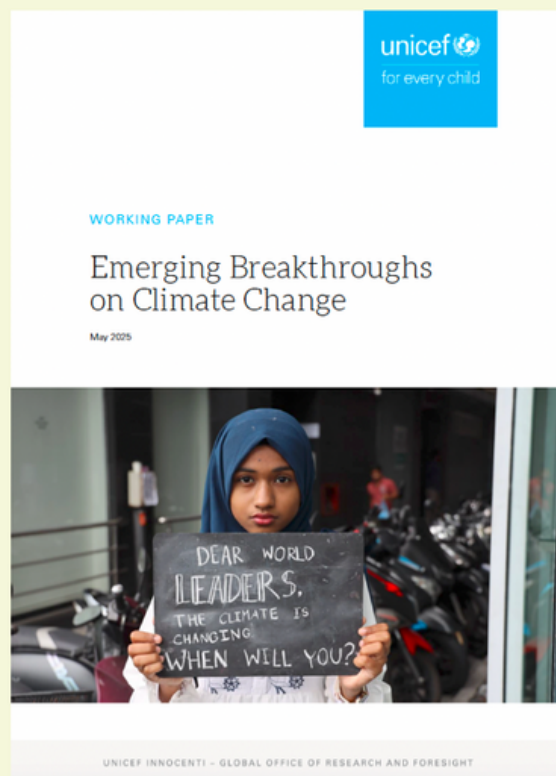


UNDP's *2025 Human Development Report* explores the implications of AI for human development and the choices we can make to ensure that it enhances human capabilities. Rather than attempting to predict the future, the report argues that we must shape it by making bold decisions that allows for AI to augment what people can do. As human development progress experiences an unprecedented slowdown, the report shows how Artificial Intelligence (AI) could reignite development. It advocates for a human-centered approach to AI, with its potential to fundamentally redesign approaches to development.

[Read the report](#)

UNICEF INNOCENTI

"Emerging Breakthroughs on Climate Change Working Paper"



The Emerging Breakthroughs on Climate Change working paper is a result of a youth-led horizon scanning exercise led by 12 [UNICEF Leading Minds Fellows on Climate](#). Young leaders from diverse regions and backgrounds identified over 150 signals of potential climate breakthroughs and analyzed how these breakthroughs might impact future generations. Using strategic foresight methodologies, emerging solutions across five domains were analyzed (e.g. eco-literacy, equitable energy transitions, climate finance, loss and damage, and community-centric governance), followed by a mapping of intended and unintended consequences of emerging climate solutions.

[Read the working paper](#)

★ PEOPLE HIGHLIGHTS

Meet **Damla Aras**, Political Affairs Officer/Analyst - Joint Analysis and Reporting Section, UNAMA



Damla Aras currently serves as an analyst in the Joint Analysis and Reporting Section (JARS) of **UNAMA**. Her areas of expertise include the development of foresight and early warning mechanisms that integrate human and machine analysis to inform forward-looking decision-making, and action.

[Read more about Damla](#)

Meet **Daiana Banciu**, Human Rights Officer - Early Warning Analysis Unit, Innovation and Analytics Hub, OHCHR



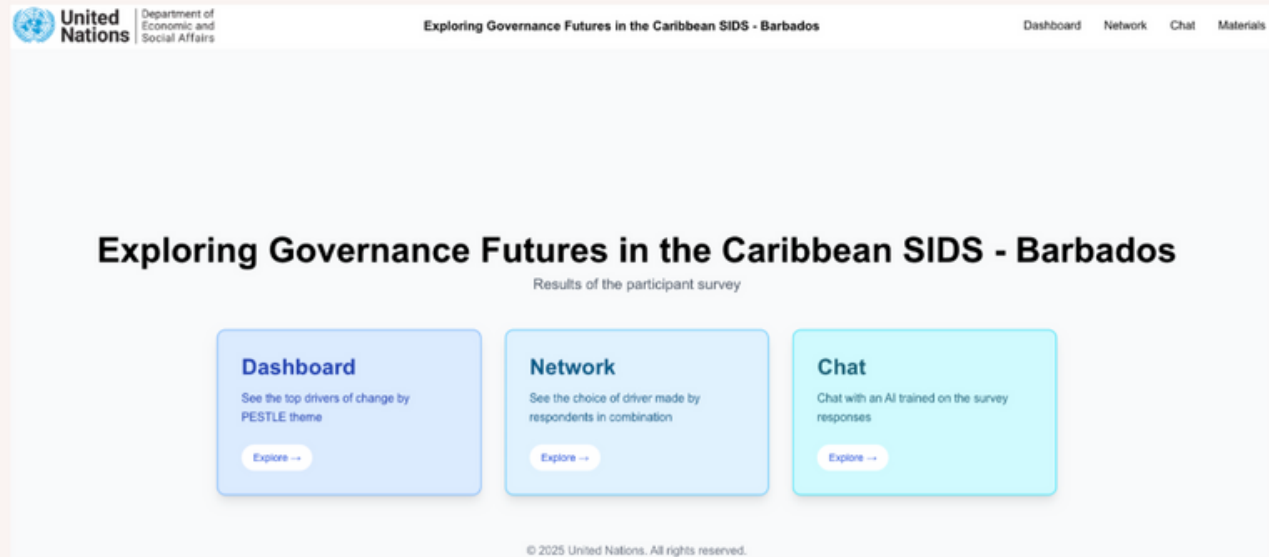
Daiana Banciu is a Human Rights Officer within the Early Warning Analysis Unit in **OHCHR**'s Innovation and Analytics Hub. She plays a pivotal role in integrating human rights perspectives into early warning systems and strategic foresight processes across the UN system.

[Read more about Daiana](#)

USE CASES AND RESOURCES

UNDESA / DPIDG

"Exploring Governance Futures in the Caribbean SIDS"



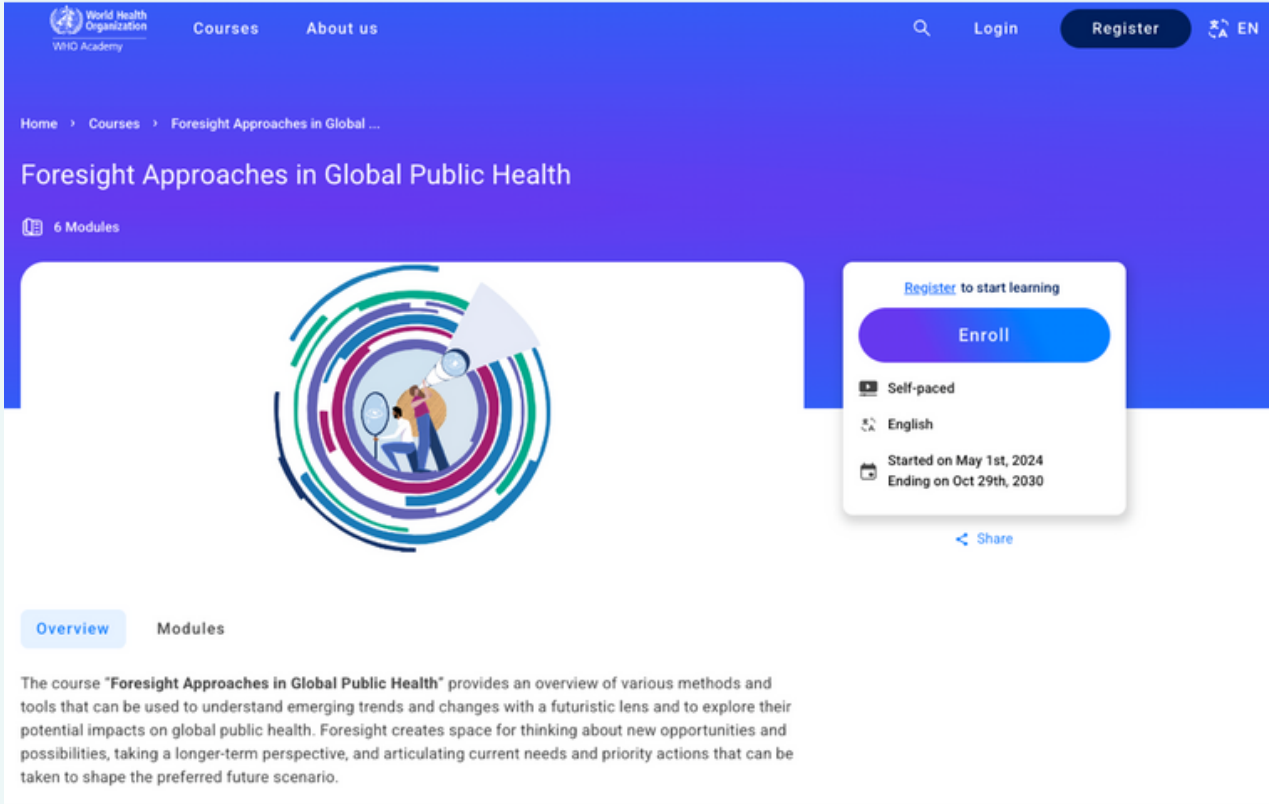
The [UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs' Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government](#) (UN DESA / DPIDG) has developed several online tools to support the analysis of foresight insights in line with [The Future of Governance: Changing Mindsets for Innovation and Public Sector Transformation workshop](#) held in Bridgetown, Barbados on 25 - 27 May 2025. The [suite of digital solutions](#) includes a dashboard that presents top drivers of change, network visualization, and an AI chatbot that can provide insight into perspectives from eight countries in the Caribbean.

Explore the tools

FORESIGHT TRAINING

WHO ACADEMY

Foresight Approaches in Global Public Health



The screenshot shows the WHO Academy website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the WHO logo, 'Courses', 'About us', a search icon, 'Login', a 'Register' button, and a language selector set to 'EN'. Below the navigation bar, the breadcrumb trail reads 'Home > Courses > Foresight Approaches in Global ...'. The main heading is 'Foresight Approaches in Global Public Health', followed by '6 Modules'. A large circular graphic with concentric rings and a magnifying glass over a person is featured. To the right, a white box contains the text 'Register to start learning', a blue 'Enroll' button, and course details: 'Self-paced', 'English', 'Started on May 1st, 2024', and 'Ending on Oct 29th, 2030'. A 'Share' link is at the bottom of this box. Below the graphic, there are tabs for 'Overview' (selected) and 'Modules'. The 'Overview' section contains a paragraph: 'The course "Foresight Approaches in Global Public Health" provides an overview of various methods and tools that can be used to understand emerging trends and changes with a futuristic lens and to explore their potential impacts on global public health. Foresight creates space for thinking about new opportunities and possibilities, taking a longer-term perspective, and articulating current needs and priority actions that can be taken to shape the preferred future scenario.'

The *Foresight Approaches in Global Public Health* course by the [World Health Organization](#) (WHO) provides an overview of various methods and tools that can be used to understand emerging trends and changes to explore their potential impacts on global public health. It will feature ways foresight can be applied in global public health, such as emerging technologies, mitigating biorisks, and preparedness for future epidemics and pandemics. The target audience for this course are technical teams and mid- to senior-level professionals responsible for planning, prioritization, and strategy setting.

[Enroll now](#)



JOBS

[View all Foresight Jobs on the UN Strategic Foresight Knowledge Hub](#)

Senior Adviser (Giga Financing and Market Shaping)

UNICEF Office of Innovation (Giga)

Geneva, Switzerland

30 June Deadline

[Apply now](#)

Strategic Foresight Specialist

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Beirut, Lebanon

2 July Deadline

[Apply now](#)

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4. Promote your events [\[EMAIL US\]](#)
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6. Share training ideas [\[EMAIL US\]](#)
7. Feature foresight job openings [\[EMAIL US\]](#)

Members of the UN Strategic Foresight Community of Practice receive this newsletter. If you are a UN colleague and do not wish to receive updates on events, trainings, or jobs, you can **unsubscribe** here.

For external enquiries, please contact us at futureslab@un.org