

UN Strategic Foresight Newsletter

November 2025



United Nations
Futures Lab
N E T W O R K

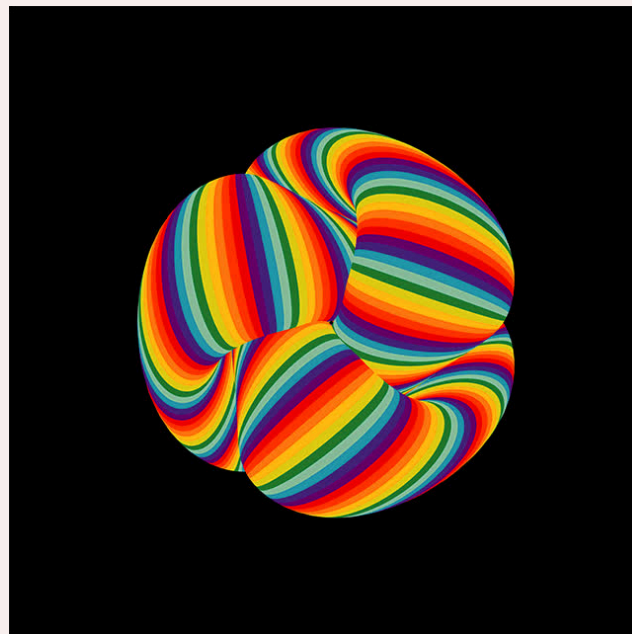


Welcome to the November 2025 edition of our Foresight Community newsletter!

This month showcased how foresight is being activated across the system—from [UNDP's Signals Studio's](#) signals of change, which shaped our first Community sensemaking session, to the [UN Futures Lab/Global Hub](#) and [UN DESA's horizon scanning event](#) at the [Second World Summit for Social Development](#).

We're also highlighting new foresight-related publications from [WMO](#), [UNEP](#), [UNCTAD](#), and [WIPO](#), along with training opportunities from [UNSSC](#) and job opportunities across the UN that continue to strengthen anticipatory capacities.

Together, these efforts reflect how a wide range of entities are applying foresight to deepen understanding, guide strategy, and support more resilient decision-making across the 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

20 November 2025 | 9AM EST, 3PM CET

Community of Practice Webinar #29

Signals Snapshot Sensemaking with UNDP



The [29th UN Strategic Foresight Community of Practice webinar](#) held on 20 November 2025 provided the space for the Community's first sensemaking session. With lead facilitation by the [United Nations Development Programme](#) (UNDP), the session built on insights from UNDP's global network of over 500 signal scanners on the future of activism, communication, education, employment, and development. This collective intelligence exercise provided a shared reference point for reflection and dialogue on emerging questions that could shape the UN's future positioning, programming, and strategy. It also served as an opportunity for the Community to test approaches in analyzing horizon scanning outcomes. Findings from this session will feed into the finalization of the December 2025 Signals Snapshot.

[Watch the webinar recap](#)



EVENTS

5 November 2025 | 8:45AM – 10AM EST

UN Futures Lab/Global Hub | UN DESA

UN Global Horizon Scanning for Governance and Social Development

**UN GLOBAL HORIZON
SCANNING FOR GOVERNANCE
AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Second World Summit for
Social Development Solutions
Sessions

WEDNESDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2025
4:45 PM - 6:00 PM (GMT + 3)
08:45 AM - 10:00 AM (EST)
VIRTUAL (VIA ZOOM)

SECOND
WORLD SUMMIT
FOR SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT
DOHA 2025

United Nations
Futures Lab
NETWORK

United
Nations

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs

SOLUTIONS SESSION

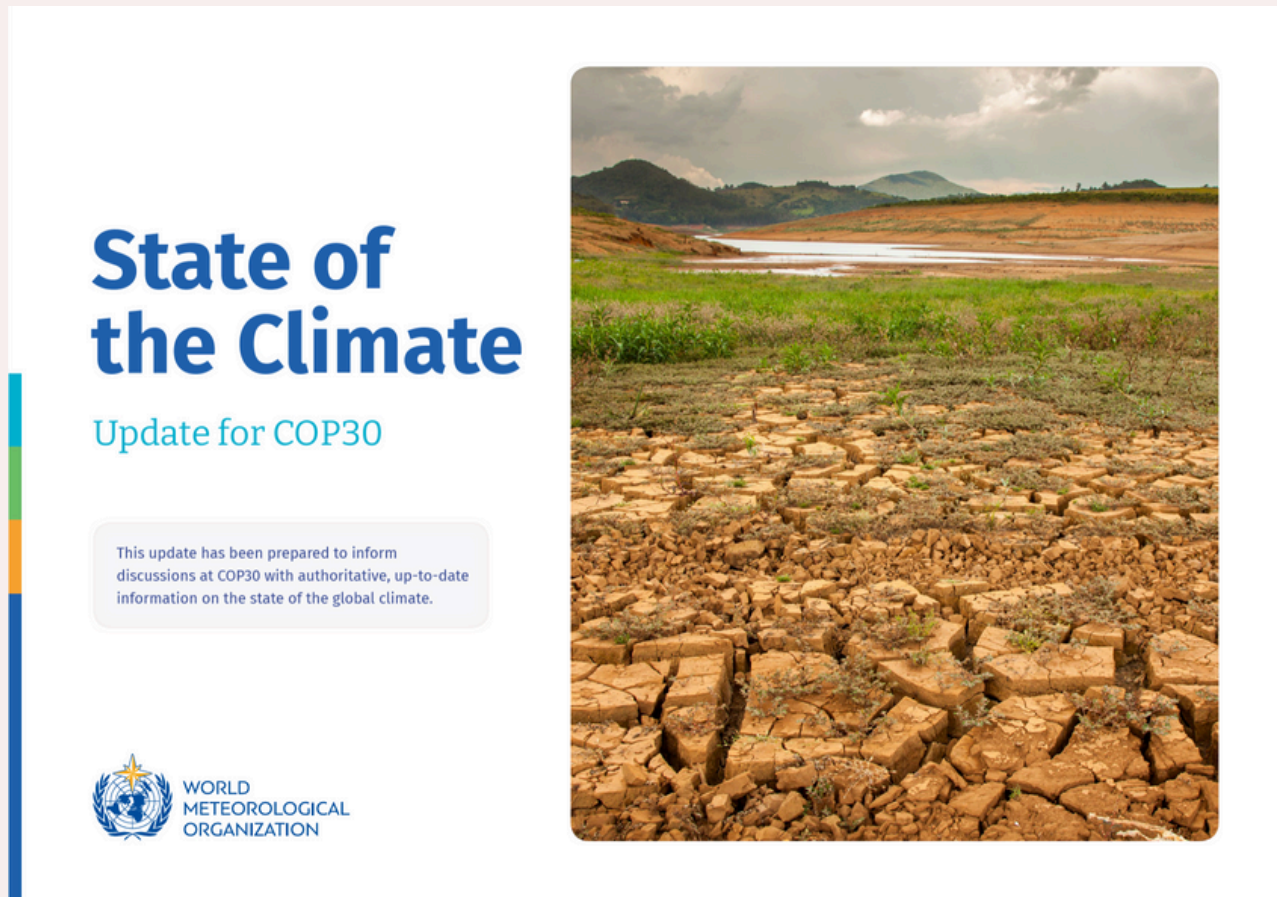
The [UN Global Horizon Scanning for Governance and Social Development](#) session was held as a side event of the [Second World Summit for Social Development 2025](#), as part of the Solutions Sessions. The event featured a brief introduction to the [UN Global Horizon Scanning initiative](#), followed by a presentation of emerging insights related to the Summit's thematic priorities. The event also featured a multistakeholder panel discussion with colleagues from [RCO Seychelles and Mauritius](#), [United Nations Department of Safety and Security \(UNDSS\)](#), [Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights \(OHCHR\)](#), [United Nations Development Programme \(UNDP\)](#), [United Nations Department of Peace Operations \(DPO\)](#), and the [Food and Agriculture Organization \(FAO\)](#).

[Learn more and watch the recording](#)

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

State of the Climate Update for COP30



This [State of the Climate report](#) on the current state of the global climate has been prepared to inform discussions at the [thirtieth Conference](#) (COP30) of the Parties to the [United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#) (UNFCCC) with authoritative, up-to-date information. It combines consolidated and complementary data on climate trends, drivers, and indicators to provide a robust picture of ongoing climate change, intended to be used as a: (i) science-based reference to anchor COP negotiations in authoritative evidence; (ii) communication tool to highlight key climate indicators and their relevance to support policymaking; (iii) bridge to more detailed reports for further analysis.

[Read the report](#)

👁️ RECENTLY LAUNCHED

UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

“Climate Change in the courtroom: Trends, impacts, and emerging lessons”



Drawing on data from the [Sabin Center’s Climate Change Litigation Databases](#), the [Climate Change in the Courtroom](#) report highlights emerging trends and key issues shaping the field of climate litigation. It serves as an essential resource for judges, lawyers, advocates, policymakers, researchers, environmental defenders, climate activists, human rights advocates, NGOs, businesses, and the international community. The report offers insights into how courts are becoming avenues for addressing the multifaceted legal dimensions of climate change.

[Read the report](#)

★ PEOPLE HIGHLIGHTS

Meet **Prema Chandrashekhar**, Technology Policy and Global Operations Specialist, World Bank Technology Innovation Office



Prema Chandrashekhar is a Technology Policy and Global Operations Specialist at the Technology Innovation Office at the [World Bank Group](#). Utilizing her Futures, Foresight, Design and Systems training, she helps governments, operations teams, and partners navigate uncertainty by building future scenarios, facilitating strategic foresight workshops, and shaping ethical AI and digital public goods policies.

[Read more about Prema](#)

Meet **Bastian Richter**, Team Leader for Policy Planning in the Policy and Best Practices Service, DPO



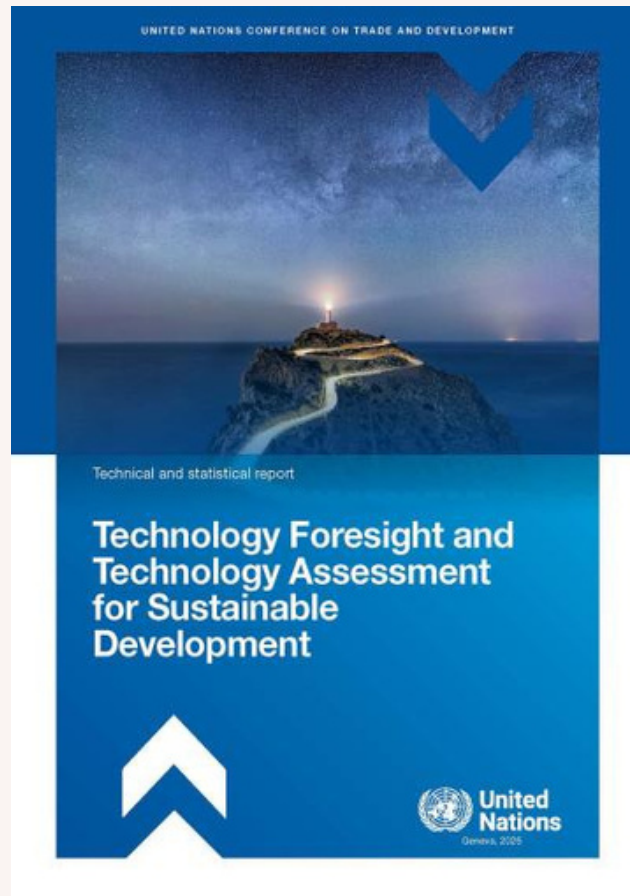
Bastian Richter is the Team Leader for Policy Planning in the Policy and Best Practices Service of the [United Nations Department of Peace Operations](#) (DPO). In this role, he provides strategic policy advice and leads research on emerging trends shaping the future of UN peacekeeping, including through the use of strategic foresight initiatives.

[Read more about Bastian](#)

USE CASES AND RESOURCES

UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

“Technology Foresight and Technology Assessment for Sustainable Development”



Technology assessment and technology foresight are two complementary disciplines that together can provide strategic intelligence to policymakers wishing to improve strategic planning and develop capacity for anticipatory technology governance. This report outlines their development and examines how they have been used by countries and how they can contribute to strategic planning and anticipatory technology governance. It also poses recommendations for how to support the wider diffusion of these tools across more countries, particularly developing countries.

[Read the report](#)

“WIPO Pathfinders Report: Exploring the futures of IP driven innovation and creativity”



The [World Intellectual Property Organization](#) (WIPO)'s *Pathfinders Report* synthesizes insights from over 45 interviews with prominent thought leaders and experts within the innovation and creation ecosystem, exploring how IP-driven innovation and creativity might evolve by 2034. Structured across four chapters, the report assists Member States and the IP community in understanding how current trends may shape the future landscape, providing a foundation for exploring various potential futures for the IP system in the medium to long term.

[Read the paper](#)

FORESIGHT TRAINING

UN System Staff College (UNSSC)

Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development



This course by the [UN System Staff College \(UNSSC\)](#) explores the concept of cross-organizational and cross-sectoral policy coherence at the national, regional and international levels. It aims at equipping participants with an understanding of what coherent policymaking entails, and what are some specific tools, mechanisms and approaches that can be employed to foster it. The course also includes a module focusing on the synergies, trade-offs, and strategic interventions for the future to foster policy coherence for sustainable development.

[Learn more](#)



JOBS

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

Development Coordination Officer, Head of RCO and Strategic Planner

Resident Coordinator System

Gaborone, Botswana

4 December Deadline

[Apply now](#)

Roster – Strategic Foresight Consultant

ITU

Home-based

31 December Deadline

[Apply now](#)

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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