‘Strategy X’
- A Plan to Secure the Future of Humanity from Existential Threats

A Collaborative Initiative advanced by the InterAction Council and Partners
Summary for Discussion for WAAS Strategic Planning, November 2023

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Changing Drivers for Global Security

Unknown Risks: Emerging Technologies

Global Security

Pandemics

Planetary Emergency

Conflict & Migration

Impacts: Sustainable Development Goals and Human Security

NATIONAL

GLOBAL

PLANET

PEOPLE

PEACE
**CONTEXT**

**Sustainable Development Goals – SDGs 2015**

**Sendai Framework**

**Paris Agreement**

**Future**

**Proactive versus Reactive:**
Strategic Foresight to identify threats and risks to Human Existence

**UN Futures Summit 2023-2024:**
Areas of Potential Action suggested by UNSG:

1. **Account for the Future** – including our Future Generations
2. **Respond to Global Shocks** – Emergency Platform
3. **Include Young People**
4. **Measure Human Progress** – beyond GDP
5. **Vision of Digital Technology** – reduce harms & maximize benefits
6. **Integrity in Public Information** – safe and inclusive
7. **Reform International Financial Architecture** – for the SDGs
8. **Peaceful and Sustainable Outer Space** – governance norms
9. **A New Agenda for Peace**
10. **Transform Education**
11. **UN 2.0** – include strategic foresight

**UN Pact for the Future 2024**

Identify and Address Widespread and Cross-Cutting Challenges to the Survival, Livelihood & Dignity of People

People-Centred, Comprehensive, Context Specific & Prevention Orientated Responses that Strengthen the Protection & Empowerment of All People
Key X- Threats and Risks for All

*Existential threats* potentially risk the extinction of life including the human species

In order to resonate with the essential determinants for human survival reflected by the Sustainable Development Goals, existential threats are considered under the SDG clusters of Planet, Peace, People and Prosperity:

- **Planet**: threats range from mass-extinctions from asteroids, massive volcanic eruptions and biodiversity collapse to threats from our climate emergency

- **People**: inequalities, food and water insecurity act as drivers for migration and conflict, whilst a warming planet increases the risk of pandemics with the potential to threaten human existence

- **Peace**: nuclear, chemical and biological warfare including engineered pandemics; Digital Warfare and Artificial Intelligence

- **Prosperity**: Mechanical- Technical- Industrialisation including unsustainable growth (planet); unhealthy crowded cities and rapid travel (pandemics) and widening inequalities (peace); human security risks are posed from emerging technology including Quantum Computing and genetic engineering
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Threats</th>
<th>Risks</th>
<th>Impacts</th>
<th>Timescales</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Planet</td>
<td>High: Runaway Tipping Points</td>
<td>Catastrophic Biodiversity Collapse with Mass Extinctions</td>
<td>Critical next few years as Tipping Points are already being exceeded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People</td>
<td>High: Future Pandemics</td>
<td>Low Fatality- weakens global security&lt;br&gt;High Fatality –potential for catastrophic impacts</td>
<td>COVID continues to evolve new variants&lt;br&gt;Synthetic infections are already possible to create</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peace</td>
<td>High: Conflict and Nuclear disaster in Europe</td>
<td>Potential for escalation of Nuclear explosions&lt;br&gt;Nuclear Winter devastates food &amp; water</td>
<td>Exists whilst conflicts have availability to nuclear reactors and weapons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosperity</td>
<td>High: Emerging Technology&lt;br&gt;<strong>Unsustainable Growth</strong></td>
<td>Uncontrollable catastrophic impacts from Artificial General Intelligence (AGI)</td>
<td>AGI is likely to emerge within the next 3-5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Uncertain: Volcanoes, Asteroids</td>
<td>Causes of previous Mass Extinctions</td>
<td>Uncertain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONTEXT: The Escalating Nexus of Existential Threats and Risks

- **Planet:**
  - Climate Emergency
  - Tipping Point Risks
  - Hothouse Earth
  - Biodiversity Crisis
  - Mass Extinctions

- **People:**
  - Pandemics
  - Food Security
  - Water Security
  - Heat related Deaths
  - Mass Migration

- **Peace:**
  - Nuclear catastrophe
  - Biological & Chemical Warfare
  - Synthetic Biology
  - Digital Warfare
  - WW III

- **Prosperity:**
  - Unsustainable Growth (Planet)
  - Urban crowding (People)
  - Inequalities (Peace)
  - Emerging Tech

Nurse J, 2023
Vision: Create a Flourishing and Safe World for All – To Secure the Well Being of Our Future Generations

**Aim to Prevent Cascades:**
- Pandemics
- Violence & Nuclear War
- Escalation of Climate Tipping Points
- Existential Threats from Emerging Tech

**Goals – Prevention and Risk Reduction:**

- **Primary Prevention:** whereby the onset of the threat or hazard is prevented from occurring
- **Secondary Prevention:** early detection and warning systems with early interventions are applied to halt and reverse progression of hazards – this is often seen as risk reduction, resilience and adaptation
- **Tertiary Prevention:** to make an established problem less severe in order to improve outcomes – this relates to the concepts of mitigation and recovery

**Aim to Reduce Risks and Promote Resilience & Recovery:**
- Planetary Emergency
- Disasters

- **Risk Reduction:** minimise the likelihood and scale of consequences and impacts
Strategic Foresight for a Strategic Plan:

**GOVERNANCE**

**CONTEXT:** SHORT and LONGTERM RISKS and BARRIERS

Assessment → Analysis → Scenarios → Interventions

**STRATEGIC PLAN:** MULTI-DISCIPLINARY SUSTAINABLE SYSTEMS

DESIGN and DELIVER
A Global Plan to Save Humanity

Strategic Sustainable Systems:

- **Planet**: prevent tipping points from escalating and creating runaway climate change; create a strategic Global Emergency response to stabilise our Essential Determinants of Life on this Planet including Temperature, Air, Water, Land and Food systems and to assist in recovery.

- **People**: prevent future Pandemics – through enhanced global governance with regional and local coordination, create One Health systems for prevention, detection, early warning systems, preparedness and response; transform global health security as a global good with digital solutions.

- **Peace**: prevent violence within families and communities, and create inclusive and fair societies to promote a culture of peace; identify risks for conflicts for early intervention with diplomacy and development for pathways to peace including intercountry initiatives; advocate for and agree on common global rights and responsibilities, and implement controls for technologies and weapons of mass-destruction; adopt no first use policies, remove hair trigger alerts and pledge no use of nuclear weapons.

- **Prosperity**: Scale renewable energy to underpin Human Security, Sustainable Development and Growth; Establish Global Governance for Digital Technology and AI to reduce risks and enhance beneficial solutions; promote open access Health and Education, Research and Innovation to create a flourishing world for all.
Opportunities: A Smart, Wise, Green and Healthy Planet for All
Shaping the Convergence of the Digital Revolution with the Green Transition

The 4 Industrial Revolutions (IR) and the Potential Direction of the 5th Era

18th Century | 19th Century | 1970s | 2000 | 2020 | 2030

IR1: Industrial Steam | IR2: Capitalism Electricity | IR3: Technology Robots Computers | IR4: Digital Internet WWW-1 Mobiles; Data | IR5: WWW-2 A Quantum Leap to a Smart (AI), Wise (Human), Green and Healthy Era

Transforming the Future of Human Security and the Sustainable Development Goals
A Global Futures Platform – for Planet, People and Peace

GOVERNANCE:
- Human Security Council
- Global Strategy & Coordination
- Declaration for the Future
- Emergency Platform
- People for the Planet
- Youth Council

Governance solutions:
- Global Goods
- Treaties
- Risks
- Technology

KNOWLEDGE:
- Risk Platform
- Early Warning
- Threshold Indicators
- Knowledge Transfer
- Research & Innovation

KNOWLEDGE:
- Green Energy Transition
- Prevention of Threats
- Sustainable Development
- Nature-based Solutions

ADVOCACY:
- Youth Leadership
- Leaders for Emergencies
- Civil Society Engagement
- Resilient Communities

ADVOCACY:
- Invest at scale:
  - Green Energy Transition
  - Prevention of Threats
  - Sustainable Development
  - Nature-based Solutions

CAPACITY:
- Education & Workforce
- Whole Earth Health Systems
- Infrastructure & Engineering
- Digital Transformation
Advancing Recommendations:
- A Global Youth Council to Prevent Existential Threats Launched with Bertie Ahern at the One Young World Summit, Belfast 2023

• **GOVERNANCE:** A Global Security Council for the Planet, People and Peace
• **STRATEGY:** A Plan to Secure the Future of Humanity from Existential Threats
• **PLATFORM:** A Global Futures Platform - for the Planet, People and Peace
• **ADVOCACY:** Champions and Ambassadors for the Well-Being of Future Generations
• **LEADERS:** Create Courageous and Inclusive Leadership for Emergencies and Global Security
• **PARTNERS:** Establish an Alliance of Partners for the Planet, People and Peace

January 9th 2024: the InterAction Council is convening a High Level Meeting at the House of Lords, UK - on **Strengthening Global Governance to Prevent Threats and Reduce Risks to Human Existence**

Next Steps:

**Governance:** Establish the governance process with a core group of leaders and youth council

**Alliance:** Engage supportive partners and donors

**Strategy:** Draft a Strategic Plan for consultation

**Platform:** Design a Global Futures Platform to enable strategic sustainable systems

**Leaders:** scale capacity for inclusive leadership skilled at prevention and risk management

**Advocacy:** Champions, Media and Events

**Launch:** in 2024 – at the UN Futures Summit

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Potential Role of WAAS:

**Thought:** Advocacy - enabled by the expertise of the ER4H group and HS4A initiative

**Action:** Education - convene an international transdisciplinary education conference

**Impacts:**
- **Catalyst** - advance a transdisciplinary ‘One Planet Health System’
- **Alliance** – establish a transdisciplinary network
- **Leaders** - scale up leadership and workforce capacity