

### MEGA TRENS

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## What are the key tensions influencing our futures?

## PIGIFIE

## & TENSIONS

## reconstruction is a matter of urgency





**Climate warming** 

**Extreme weather**phenomena

**Loss of biodiversity** 

Overconsumption of resources

Soil degradation

**More waste** 

#### TENSIONS

ENVIRONMENTAL
AWARENESS
VS ENVIRONMENTAL
ACTION

BELITTLING VS ACTIVISM

FAIR VS UNEQUAL TRANSITION TO A SUSTAINABLE SOCIETY How successful will we be in achieving quick and fair ecological reconstruction?

What is Finland's role in the global change?

What could sustainable lifestyles look like in practice?

Do we see nature as a resource or as having intrinsic value?



## The environmental crisis challenges culture to change





From a multipolar world to a poly-nodal world

Admiration of strong leaders

Rise of populism

**Rise of new movements** 

**Confusion is power** 

#### TENSIONS

CENTRALISED DECISIONS

VS BROAD ENGAGEMENT

FREEDOM OF SPEECH
VS INFLUENCE THROUGH
INFORMATION

GLOBAL INSTITUTIONS VS
POLY-NODAL WORLD

### How can we achieve the renewal of democracy and make big changes?

How do we ensure broader engagement and quick decisions?

How can we reduce polarisation and confusion?

How do we strengthen global decision-making in a poly-nodal world?



# Reducing confusion and taking quick action go hand in hand!





Longer life expectancy and an ageing population

**Declining birth rate** 

Concentration of the population

**Tribalisation** 

#### TENSIONS

DEPENDENCY RATIO
VS MAINTAINING THE
WELFARE STATE

CITIES

VS RURAL AREAS

VS MULTI-LOCALITY

NETWORKS
VS BUBBLES

How can we prevent inequality while building an ecologically sustainable society?

How will the tensions created by polarisation develop, and can we let go of them?

Will we find a new story for what it means to be Finnish?

How will we ensure the quality and adequacy of society's services?



#### Bringing shades of grey into "us vs them" thinking



**Concentration of wealth** 

**Circular economy** 

Changing structures of work

Continuous development of competence

#### TENSIONS

PLATFORM MONOPOLIES
VS HUMAN-DRIVEN DATA
ECONOMY

CONSUMPTION CULTURE VS ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

SUSTAINABLE
VS RESTORATIVE
ECONOMY

### How do we want to reshape our economic system?

How will people's consumption habits change?

What will be the future shape of working life?

How do we ensure the fair distribution of wealth and income for all?



## Working to build a restorative economy



Technology transforms operating methods

Al applications permeate society

Falling cost of renewable energy

Emphasis on understanding technology

#### TENSIONS

CO-OPERATION

VS BATTLE FOR AI

WIDESPREAD USE OF TECHNOLOGY VS INEQUALITY

TECHNOLOGY AS AN OPPORTUNITY VS THREAT

Who exercises power over the future? That is, who gets to define the future scenarios?

Who gets to decide on technology?

Does technology promote or hinder ecological reconstruction?

How do we prevent the growth of inequality brought about by technology?



# Technology affects us, but how do we affect technology?



#### The population is ageing and diversifying

New tribes and communities

#### Relational power is strengthening

Fair or unequal transition?



Centralised decisions or broad engagement?

Sustainability gap

Ecological reconstruction is a matter of

urgency

Power over the future

The environment as a resource or improving the state of the environment?

Are solutions opportunities or threats?

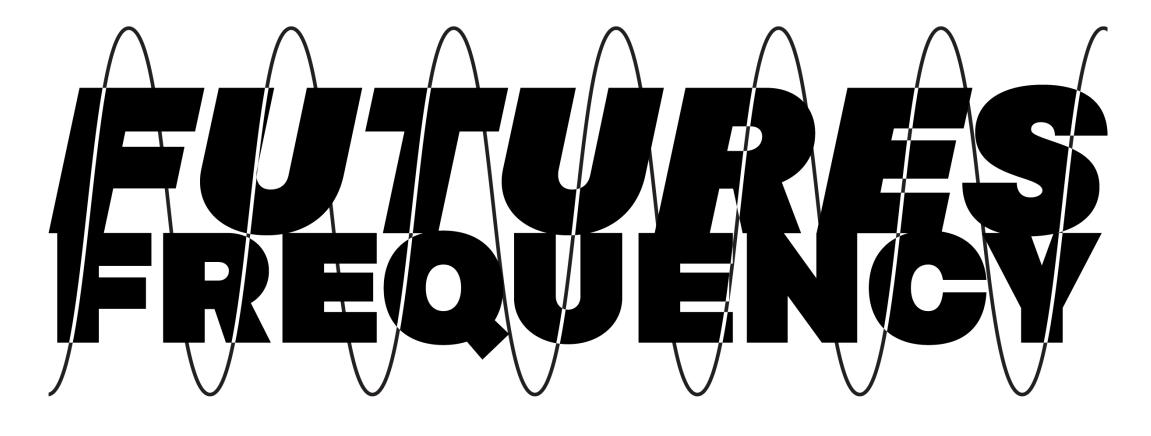
The economy is seeking direction



Technology is becoming embedded in everything







Workshop method for building alternative futures.

futuresfrequency.fi



#### The structure of Futures Frequency

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**Intro:** Why does a change maker need futures thinking?

1

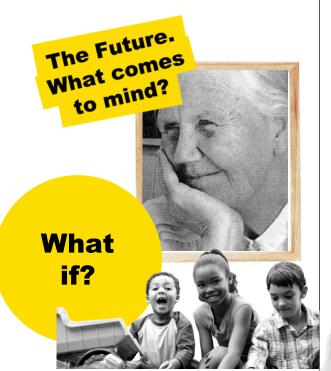
**Challenge** existing assumptions about the future



**Imagine** a preferred future

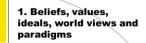
3

**Take action** and shape the future









2. Systems and structures

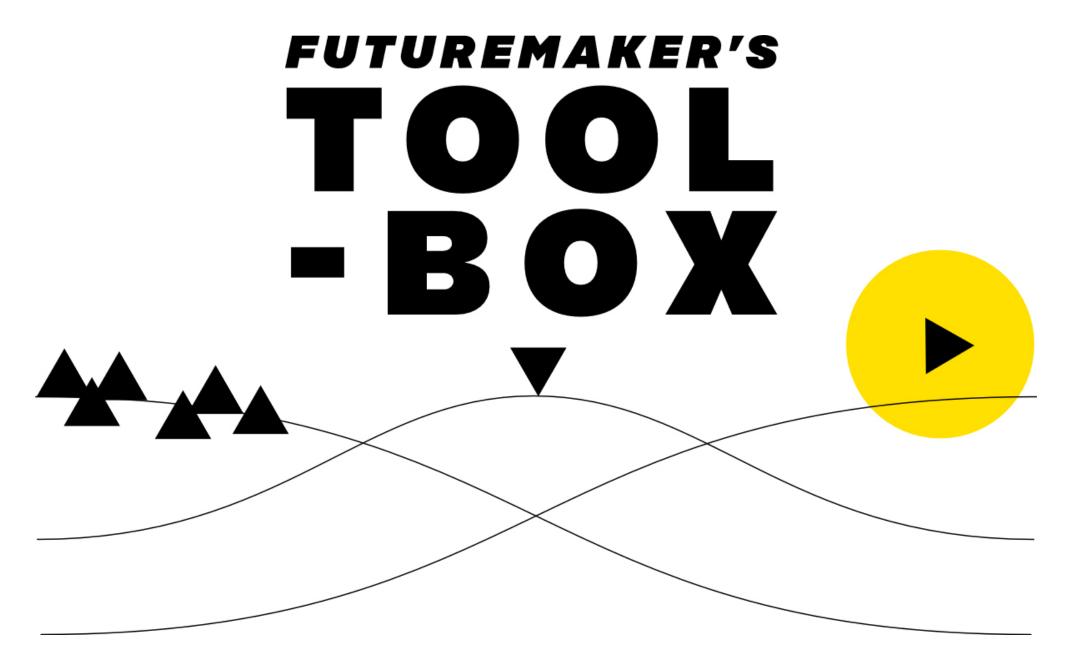
3. Behaviour and technology

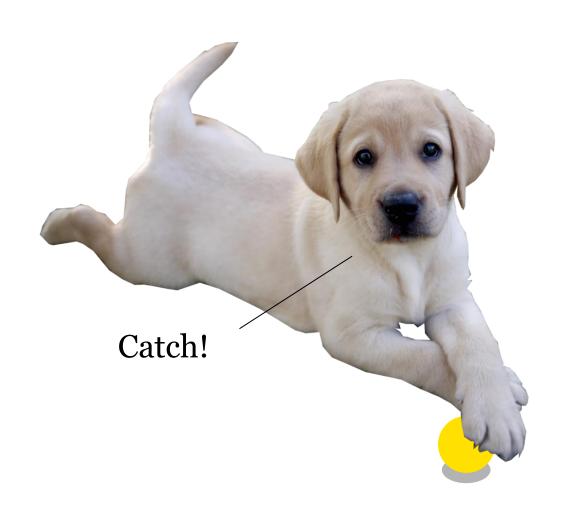
IMPACT SCOPE



#### **Materials**

- Facilitator's handbook with detailed instructions and speaking points
- PPT-slides
- Templates for the exercises as well as for planning the workshop
- Videos of all the presentation
- Audio stories





## What kind of future do *you* want to build?