

## The Future Through Three Horizons

# THE WORLD IN THE FUTURE



**IN 10 YEARS (2035)**

3 BILLIONS NOW



**IN 50 YEARS (2075)**

50 YEARS FROM



**IN 200 YEARS (2225)**

200 YEARS

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### Horizon I: The World in 2035 - A Crowded Crossroads

In just ten years, the global population is projected to reach nearly 9.3 billion. Urbanization will peak, especially in Africa and Southeast Asia, while aging societies in the Global North strain under pension and

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healthcare demands. Climate-related displacement will push migration to historical highs, provoking new geopolitical tensions.

Geopolitically, a multipolar world emerges. The U.S., China, and the EU remain influential, but regional powers like India, Brazil, and Nigeria begin to assert greater leadership. Technologies such as AI, quantum computing, and synthetic biology advance unevenly, creating new digital divides.

Power begins shifting subtly toward the Global South, but trade and development debt chains still favour the North. The fossil fuel industry faces its final reckoning, but many economies remain addicted. Climate adaptation becomes central to policy, not optional.

## Horizon II: The World in 2075 - Reckoning and Renewal

By 2075, the consequences of the 21st-century Anthropocene are undeniable. Sea levels have risen over a metre, displacing hundreds of millions. Parts of the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia become intermittently uninhabitable due to extreme heat. AI governance, previously a concern, becomes a necessity.

The Global South has grown in voice and influence. Africa's population exceeds 4 billion and dominates the demographic centre of gravity. Yet, climate injustices remain unresolved, sparking unrest and philosophical reorientations toward global ethics.

Religions-once marginalised by secular tech-resurge in new hybrid forms, integrating ecological stewardship, AI ethics, and ancestral wisdom. Faith and science no longer compete, but collaborate.

Industries revolve around decentralisation: food grown in labs, energy generated locally, economies rebuilt on

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regenerative principles. But the scars of ecological collapse linger. Humanity exists in a cautious phase of recovery and reflection.

## Horizon III: The World in 2225 - Integration and Interdependence

Two centuries ahead, Earth holds a population of under 9 billion, stabilized by birth control autonomy, techno-optimism, and interplanetary migration. Mars colonies exist, not as escape pods but as reflective extensions of human curiosity. Post-national governance and AI stewardship help maintain global peace, though no utopia is perfect.

Geoengineering, now highly precise and democratically controlled, helps rebalance climate patterns. Energy is clean, abundant, and decentralised. Power has fully shifted toward a Global Equator, where previously colonized regions now lead cultural, economic, and philosophical renewal.

Religions-shaped by space travel, neurobiology, and intergenerational grief-occupy a central moral role in shaping human identity. Faith is not monolithic; it's pluralistic and contemplative, embracing the sacredness of both carbon and code.

Industries are knowledge-based, adaptive, and cooperative. The very idea of 'industry' evolves into co-creation with nature and AI symbiosis.

## Final Reflection

From Hiroshima to TikTok, from colonialism to climate repair, the past 100 years have taught humanity two truths: progress without ethics is perilous, and survival without compassion is hollow.

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My prediction? The next generation will inherit a messy, beautiful, uncertain world-but one imbued with deeper humility. Whether it is through technology, wisdom traditions, or new alliances, the arc of our species may yet bend toward shared flourishing-if we choose interdependence over extraction, and stewardship over dominance.

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