

## F&S June 2022

In August 2019, Évelyne Dhéliat presented the weather on TF1. Except, this time, she presented the weather for August 2050, in conjunction with the [then forecasts of the World Meteorological Organisation](#).



All well and good - a nice piece of climate alarmism from three years ago. But France has hit those temperatures – not in 2050, but this week.

So the Bonn climate talks this week should have seen some real urgency, and they did not. That's what led to António Guterres comparing fossil fuel companies to tobacco companies, Six months after COP26, we're still talking not doing. During a recent workshop, our participants were united in defining "climate change" as one of the two axes defining possible future worlds. One of them pushed back - it is not climate change that is the problem, he said, but decarbonisation.

He is right, and it has led us to some serious introspection. Maybe we need to focus on what needs to be done. Climate change is a vast diaspora of events coming down the road at us. Decarbonisation slows the speed we go down that road, and perhaps controls how far we go down it. Mme Dhéliat's forecast does not have to come true - if nations rediscover their urgency and turn their good words into actions. They need to do it now.

## UK Health and Protection Awards

SAMI Fellow Richard Walsh has once again been appointed an Adviser Category Judge at this prestigious event in October.

### **SAMI Cohort**

The Cohort is a small group of professionals working with foresight and scenario planning, who gather every couple of months to learn from each other and SAMI staffers in a mutually supportive online environment. We are now making plans for a further cohort beginning in September - additional members are welcome. For further information, contact

[Jane.Dowsett@samiconsulting.co.uk](mailto:Jane.Dowsett@samiconsulting.co.uk).

### **Talks and blogs**

Jonathan Blanchard Smith was invited to talk at a session of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Business in a Pandemic World. Together with representatives from the hospitality industry and the National Farmers' Union, the session considered issues around food security in the UK, and practical steps to improve supply chains. Jonathan's contribution covered the future of the UK's food security, and will appear as a blog later this month.

Huw Williams' article on the Future of Paper Industries for an anniversary edition of the journal of the Confederation of Paper Industries is due to be published soon.

SAMI Principal Joe Ravetz continues his work on the Foresight 3.0 theme of the "[Laboratory for collective intelligence](#)".

Upcoming sessions include:

[Foresight 3.0 for climate change / all change](#): interactive workshop: 10th July 2022 at 1400 BST,. Wherever climate action changes 'the system', we can expect power games, blame games, truth games

[Foresight 3.0 for WW-3.0](#): 30th September 2022. If a world war is even a remote possibility how can Foresight 3.0 respond in theory and practice? i.e. "Foresight for Warlords"

Patricia Lustig and Gill Ringland ran a workshop at the Association of Professional Futurists conference on “Engaging others in Foresight”. Patricia is also on the organising committee of the conference, EXPLORING NEXT - APF's Global Virtual Conference 2022 on the Futures of Human Experience.

### **Executive Education**



Our online course “Understanding the Future” will be run again from July 18th to 22nd. The course fee is £490 + VAT, and discounts may be available for self-funded individuals. For more information, please email us at [training@samiconsulting.co.uk](mailto:training@samiconsulting.co.uk). We also organise bespoke courses to suit specific clients’ needs.

A range of information on various [futures techniques](#) – the basis of the GOS Futures Toolkit - is available on our website.

### **Futures Issues**

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The Federal Aviation Administration has concluded an environmental review of Elon Musk's [Starship](#) base, stating there were no significant environmental concerns. At nearly 120 metres, Starship is the most powerful rocket ever built and is meant to carry people to the moon and Mars. NASA intends to use it for its next lunar landing of astronauts.

A fingertip-sized "[origami millirobot](#)" can move through the body and when it reaches its target, release a high-concentration drug. The origami shape squeezes out the medicine like an accordion but is otherwise rigid enough to be propelled through the body.

Researchers have recently developed a machine-learning based method specifically to teach [robots to master stir-frying](#), the Chinese culinary cooking technique. Their method combines the use of a transformer-based model and a graph neural network (GNN).

A team of engineers have developed a design strategy and [3D printing technique to build robots](#) in one single step. The strategy enables the entire mechanical and electronic systems needed to operate a robot to be manufactured all at once by a 3D printing process for engineered active materials with multiple functions ("metamaterials"). The "meta-bot" will be capable of propulsion, movement, sensing and decision-making. The only external component needed is a small battery to power the robot.

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A Spanish airline has ordered 100-seat [helium airships](#) for delivery from 2026 onwards. The airships emit just one-tenth of GHG emissions produced by jet planes. It has a helium-filled hull and will be propelled by a hybrid of electric and fuel-burning engines, with the goal of going all-electric by 2030. It can stay in the air for five days and travel at maximum speeds of 130 kilometres per hour, with a range of more than 7,000 kilometres.

Proposals for a peer-to-peer system for [EVs to share charge](#) among each other while driving down the road by being matched up with a cloud-based control system are being put forward. One car could sell abundant charge to another in need of it, through a cloud-based system that matches the two EVs in the same vicinity. The two matched cars would travel close together, sharing charge en route with no need to stop for hours at a charging station.

A new type of [silicon-anode lithium-ion battery](#) that can charge from empty to full in less than 10 minutes could be what the EV market needs. The battery also maintains 93 percent of its capacity past 1,000 charges and is minimally affected by six months of operation at elevated temperatures.

## **Our Blogs**



Over recent weeks our blogs have covered a variety of subjects. Firstly , we looked at [superpowers and explored which countries might become one in the future](#). We then reviewed some of [trends in the world of construction](#) that we'd

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heard about at June's Construction Week exhibition. After that we changed tack and spent some time looking at [positive trends that we can see happening at the moment](#). And, lastly, we explored some current trends and considered how these might affect [the future of Europe](#).

If you'd like to receive reminders when our blogs are published, then [check the link on our website](#) or if you would like to write a blog for us, then please [contact us here](#).

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