

F& S February/March 2023

The UK Health & Protection Awards 2023

SAMI Fellow Richard Walsh is once again on the Advisers Judging Panel for these awards in October. [#handpawards](#)

#thefutureisfemale

SAMI Principal Patricia Lustig, and our friend Tanja Schindler feature in this new Association of Professional Futurists initiative – “The Future is Female”.



APF the 20th Anniversary celebration

Patricia Lustig and Richard Hames will deliver a keynote session “**From Success to Significance**” at the APF event in Dubai in April. Aiming to get 'hope' and 'cultural inclusion' (i.e. voices of the global south) to be a major part of the conversation, they will cover issues such as:

- Emerging patterns in a “pluriversal” world
- Exploring the implications of different and competing worldviews: Western/Occidental, Eastern/Oriental and the ancient Indic.
- Examining the challenges for foresight practitioners as practitioners absorb the impact of generative AI.

Sustainable Innovation Pathways Framework

We continue working on the development of this innovative approach to combining

qualitative and quantitative approaches. Along with our partners, we've now launched our dedicated website at: www.sip-labs.com.

The SIP Framework supports companies, investors, and policymakers to meet the challenges demanded by decarbonisation and net zero. Contact Jonathan at jbs@samiconsulting.co.uk to discuss how it could be applied in your organisation.

“Team International”

We are always looking to strengthen our offer through forming relationships with other companies. One of those relationships is what we're calling “Team International” - we are working with colleagues at Cadmus, a leading American consultancy, and ifok, a consultancy in Germany, to develop an informal consortium of strategic and technical consultancies to help solve the world's most challenging problems through a participatory approach. We'll tell you more as we develop!

Drivers of Change

Huw Williams gave a presentation on Drivers of Change to the Institute of Environmental Sciences to kick-off their “Megatrends” series of horizon scanning and foresight events in February. Other speakers addressed urbanisation and climate change. He is now preparing an article for their journal to be published in June.

There is an associated Working Paper available [here](#) and Huw is happy to talk to any groups interested.

Polycrisis

The term “[Polycrisis](#)” came into vogue at the WEF conference at Davos. Complex and largely unrecognised causal links among the world's economic, social and ecological systems may be causing many risks to go critical at nearly the same time. If so, the apparent simultaneity isn't just a temporary coincidence; it's likely to persist and could ultimately overwhelm the capacity of society to adapt, and push some places into outright collapse. Analysts are beginning to identify [characteristics of a system that lead to polycrisis](#). The European Investment Bank, however, argues that every crisis is an opportunity, so we are leaving in an age of “[polyopportunity](#)” that can be seized through a combination of anti-cyclical investment and global co-operation. Once again, the essence seems to be thinking through second and third-order implications of change, an approach that we are seeing cropping up frequently.

Executive Education



We will be running our online course **“Understanding the Future”** again on 19th and 20th April. The course fee is £490 + VAT - discounts may be available for self-funded individuals. We also organise bespoke courses to suit specific clients’ needs.

For more information, please email us at training@samiconsulting.co.uk

Futures Issues



An innovative [Cyclone Vertical Axis Turbine](#) can produce both electricity and hydrogen, enabling a constant power output regardless of wind speed. Each turbine is also outfitted with its own hydraulic storage, to facilitate the guaranteed, constant energy supply.

The battle for chatbot and search supremacy hotted up. Microsoft announced [Bing combined with ChatGPT; Google Bard](#) launched with a glitch, showing up some of the limitations of Large Language Models. But some argue that professional jobs are not at risk because of the need to emphasise [personal relationships](#). Simply treating clients as walking legal problems or patients as a collection of symptoms and diseases won't develop the kind of relationships needed to best care for them.

Researchers have developed a [wearable sensor](#) capable of wirelessly transmitting

information via acoustic waves through air and water. They envisage applications in multiple uses in health care (eg monitoring heart rate) and the water industry (identifying blockages).

[Social scientists' forecasts](#) were shown on average to be no more accurate than those of simple statistical models (historical means, random walks or linear regressions) or the aggregate forecasts of a sample from the general public.

In a US survey, 76% of respondents indicated that they want to work for a company that is trying to have a positive impact on the world. Almost two thirds said that current efforts by businesses to tackle environmental and societal challenges do not go far enough. More than half said that they would consider resigning from their job if the [values](#) demonstrated by their employer did not align with their own

Our Blogs



Over the past two months our blogs have looked at a range of topics:

- Firstly, how [developing an adaptive plan](#) can support moving from scenarios to action
- With [geopolitics becoming ever more unpredictable](#), we examined at some possible scenarios and what *might* happen in the next generation.
- Nowadays we only seem to hear bad news so, for a change, we looked [at areas where we can be optimistic](#).
- Following this we explored [a new exhibition on genomic editing](#), recently opened at The Crick Institute.
- We turned our attention then to a new [report by Tony Blair and William Hague](#) saying that it was time to develop a new national purpose for Britain.
- Another report, this time based on the [latest World Values Survey](#), looked at the alteration in social values which we reviewed in the light of our set of drivers for change.

- And lastly, we explored [artificial general intelligence](#) and whether this was something we should all be concerned about.

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](#).