



Abstract



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State of the Future Index (SOFI)

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The State of the Future Index (SOFI) is an aggregate index of key indicators and forecasts, illustrating whether the future promises to be better or worse. Based on a combination of indicators with 20 years statistical data, and developments that are attributed different probabilities, it shows the directions and intensity of change for the next 10 years. SOFI offers the hope of identifying positive and negative changes and points of leverage for policy, as well as achieving some measure of balance in answering questions about the outlook for the future.

SOFI provides a mechanism for testing through analysis whether a policy direction promises to satisfy its primary intent and also showing its effect on the overall future. If confidence were developed in such an index, it could be a powerful policy analysis tool at global, national, regional, and even at different industrial levels.

This presentation will discuss the concept, construction, and show the usefulness of the global SOFI and national SOFIs.