

Abstract

Forecasting Through Simulation: The International Futures (IFs) Way

International Futures (IFs) is a large-scale, long-term, integrated global modeling system. It represents demographic, economic, energy, agricultural, socio-political and environmental systems for 183 countries interacting in the global system with forecast horizons that vary from a few years to the end of the century. The European Commission, the U.S. National Intelligence Council, and the United Nations Environment Program have used IFs in strategic anticipation projects.

Most analyses of political and broader country risk and of global issues rely on contemporary data and assessments, but can fail to identify dynamically changing challenges and opportunities. The breadth and sophistication of the IFs system facilitates flexible and interactive exploration of underlying drivers and their dynamics, producing rich and consistent forecasts as a foundation for analysis and decision-making.