### WEF Global Risks Report 2006

Study the Case



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### Did you know that the risks associated with the use of nanotechnology, 5G and microchips were listed among the threats in a 2006 WEF Risk Report?

http://www.weforum.org/pdf/CSI/Global\_Risk\_Report.pdf

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### WØRLD ECØNOMIC FØRUM

COMMITTED TO IMPROVING THE STATE OF THE WORLD

## **Global Risks 2006**



A World Economic Forum Report, in collaboration with MMC (Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.) Merrill Lynch and Swiss Re

and in association with the Risk Management and Decision Processes Center at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania

# So what were the risks according to the World Economic Forum in 2006?

### 1. Global Risks

The issues of global concern have been grouped in five classes – **economic, geopolitical, environmental, societal and technological**. The criteria used to determine what constitutes a global risk can be found on-line at www.weforum.org.

#### Economic

- Oil prices/energy supply
- Asset prices/Indebtedness
- US Current Account deficit and US dollar
- Coming fiscal crises
- China
- Critical infrastructures

### Societal

- Regulation
- Corporate governance
- Intellectual Property rights
- Organized crime
- Global pandemics

- · Slow and chronic diseases (industrialized world)
- Epidemic disease (developing world)
- Liability regimes

#### Environmental

- Tropical cyclones
- Earthquakes
- Climate change
- Loss of ecosystem services

### Technological

- · Convergence of technologies
- Nanotechnology
- Electromagnetic fields
- Pervasive computing

#### Geopolitical

- Terrorism
- European dislocation
- Current and future hotspots

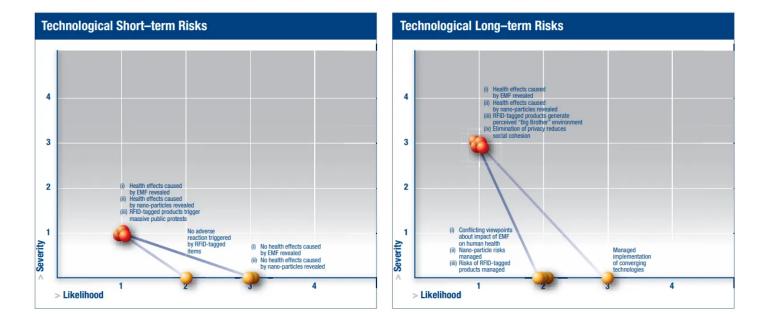
NanotechnologyElectromagnetic fields

### **Technological Risks**

Likelihood Severity

Electromagnetic Fields (EMF)				
Short-term Base	No new evidence of adverse health effects caused by EMF	3	Falls below threshold	
Short-term Worst	Causal relationship between EMF and human health revealed	1	1	
Long-term Base	Conflicting viewpoints about impact of EMF on human health	2	Falls below threshold	
Long-term Worst	Causal relationship between EMF and human health revealed	1	3	

# Causal relationship between EMF and human health revealed



Nanotechnology			
Short-term Base	No new evidence of adverse health effects caused by nanoparticles	3	Falls below threshold
Short-term Worst	Causal relationship between nano- particles and human health revealed	1	1
Long-term Base	Risks managed, widespread consumer acceptance	2	Falls below threshold
Long-term Worst	Widespread adoption followed by proven health impacts	1	3

# Causal relationship between nano-particles and human health revealed

Short-term Base	No adverse public reactions to radio	2	Falls
	frequency identification device (RFID)		below
	tagged items		threshold
Short-term Worst	RFID-tagged products trigger	1	1
	massive public protests		
Long-term Base	Risks managed, widespread consumer	2	Falls
	acceptance		below
			threshold
Long-term Worst	Pervasive computing applications	1	3
	promote perceived "Big Brother"		
	environment		

# **RFID-tagged products trigger massive public protests**

# Of course, there were also other risks, namely "pandemic/s"...

#### Influenza pandemic

The risk of a pandemic flu, particularly one caused by human-to-human transmission of the H5N1 or another avian flu virus, is now a dominant theme in the global conversation on risk. While the spread of a pandemic can be modelled, we do not know when, where (or whether) the H5N1 virus will mutate so as to allow it to spread easily from one person to another. Humans have little or no immunity to H5N1 and no vaccine to protect against it currently exists. Present supplies of antiviral drugs are insufficient to deal with a major pandemic outbreak. If person-to-person infection were to become commonplace, the vulnerabilities of our interconnected global systems would intensify the human and economic impact. A lethal flu, its spread facilitated by global travel patterns and uncontained by insufficient warning mechanisms, would present an acute threat. Short-term economic impacts would include severe impairment of travel, tourism and other service industries, as well as manufacturing and retail supply chains. Global trade, investor risk appetites and consumption demand could suffer for more extended periods. Deep shifts in social, economic and political relations are possible. A flu pandemic further presents complex mitigation challenges, including difficult trade-offs (for example, mass vaccination now may protect against the spread of a pandemic now, but mass vaccination also carries a heightened risk of mutation of the virus into more resistant strains later), and posits an obvious need for multistakeholder coordination of both prevention and response. The longer it takes for a pandemic to emerge - as long as we maintain awareness of the risk - the better prepared we are likely to be.

### Pandemics

Over the past year, the risk of an H5N1 or other avian flu pandemic has generated increasing anxiety in much of the world. If the avian flu H5N1 virus mutates to enable human-to-human transmission, it may disrupt our global society and economy in an unprecedented way and claim human life at levels close to the 1918-1919 Spanish Flu pandemic. The 1918 flu infected half the world and between 40 and 50 million people died. The other two flu pandemics of the last century - in 1957 and 1968 - were less severe. The World Health Organization has disclosed estimates of potential deaths in a full-fledged avian flu pandemic of between 2 and 7.4 million, up to a worst-case of between 20 and 40 million deaths. But this is dependent on the mutation of the virus allowing it to be spread rapidly from human to human.



Researcher displays avian flu vaccine, 14 November 2005

#### A conflation scenario for H5N1

New pandemics such as SARS (before its emergence) and human variants of avian flu lie on the continuum between unknown (u) and unknowable (U) risks. Unlike human flu or animal foot and mouth disease – where it is known that outbreaks will reoccur and past experience provides a reasonably accurate guide as to their impact – new viral diseases evolve and cause death and secondary economic damage in unpredictable ways. Global interconnectivity has vastly increased the opportunities for the emergence and rapid transmission of disease and the myriad linkages in the global economy enable systemic economic, social and political contagion as well.

The following is a brief sketch of the possible conflationary impacts of a major human outbreak.

Several cities in East Asia suffer major outbreaks of human-to-human transmission. International travel is severely affected, pandemic-specific vaccine supplies are secured and security authorities prepare for external contingencies and domestic insurgency. Emergency supply chain management is instituted, based on the possibility that 50% of those infected die. Commodities and services needed to survive for one to three years are identified. Non-critical industries reduce output or close. Even with full-scale vaccine production in nine countries with 12% of the global population, fewer than 500 million people (14% of the world's population) can be vaccinated in a year.

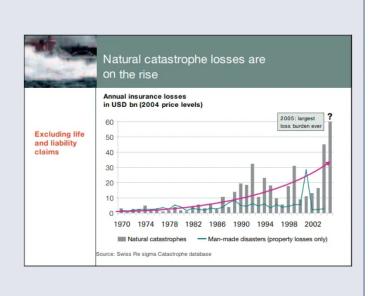
An outbreak of H5N1 human-to-human transmission could have devastating impacts globally across all social and economic sectors, disrupting efficient processes, severely degrading response capabilities and exacerbating the effects of known weaknesses in different systems. These impacts might include: the disruption of supply chains and trade flows; an exacerbation of financial imbalances and the transformation of intellectual property regimes for pharmaceutical products; rioting to gain access to scarce supplies of antivirals and vaccines; a collapse of public order; partial de-urbanization as people flee population centres; the extinction of trust in governments; decimation of specific human skill sets; and forced, large-scale migration, associated with the further collapse of already weak states.

In such a scenario, the impact on society might be as profound as that which followed the Black Death in Europe in 1348. That plague caused a fundamental transformation of socio-economic relations in Europe. The deaths of an estimated one third of the European population of the time created a shortage of labour, undermining an economy based on serfdom, and effecting a shift in the relative values of capital and labour. Scarcity of labour resources brought about a wage-based economy in which the value of skills was efficiently priced.

### or climate change.

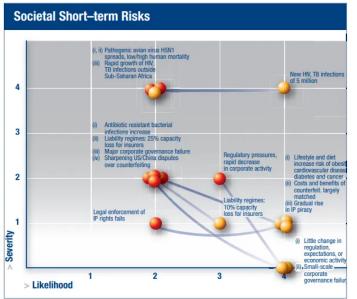
#### **Climate Change**

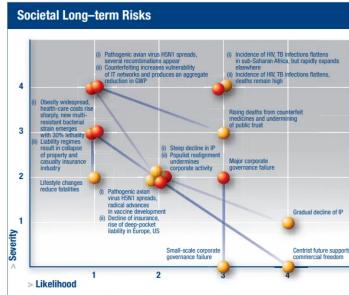
As the December 2005 UN Montreal climate change conference demonstrated, many, but not all of the human-induced risk factors are now identified, carefully tracked and modelled. Climate change has moved, over the course of the last century, from the realm of the unknowable (U) to the unknown (u) (See KuU box on next page). There is still uncertainty as to how the risks will manifest: rises in sea levels, gradual temperature shifts and intensifying weather patterns have the potential to impact heavily on both society and the global economy, and are increasingly well understood as risks to business. The effects will become more evident on a longer time horizon (chiefly beyond 10 years) so the severity of the risk is not fully captured in either the 2006 or 2015 horizons, but the accumulative nature of greenhouse gases and the feedback delays in the climate demand a response to the putative causes



today. The risks presented by climate change are fundamentally intertwined with other key risks, from storms and ecosystem degradation to regulation and long-term energy prices.

### There is still uncertainty as to how the risks will manifest: rises in sea levels, gradual temperature shifts and intensifying weather patterns...





CG = Corporate Governance

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# But no worries, they are already working on it.

### 3/ Institutions: building business and societal resilience

Key public elements of the international governmental architecture of risk mitigation already exist (the UN institutions, the World Bank, international financial services corporations and others). These elements need to be reinforced and built on, with a greater involvement of the international business community in helping to understand and mitigate global risk.

At the national and local level, governments may be able to learn from business ERM models in improving the management of risk portfolios and integrating private sector risk management techniques into national administration...



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BioNTech stands for biological applications of nanotechnology

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Alina 13 hrs ago · edited 13 hrs ago VLiked by OUTRAGED HUMAN

Thank you! This is precious.

They used all of it against us. Of course it's a coincidence.

Science is Political 2.0 Science Is Political 2.0 13 hrs ago Viked by OUTRAGED HUMAN

That is a really good post: I have not been on line today: but I have read about the WEF and the nano tech 5G. The WEF along with its colleagues in crime should be de-funded and all their so called 'case studies" turned over to scholars who use statistics and comprehend the situation of the WORLD, by people who actually give a damn about the WORLD and Economics because they understand that all problems do not have solutions but economic problems can and will have negative outcomes if left in the hands of the intellectually and morally bankrupt scoundrels of the WEF. Good post.

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**1 reply by OUTRAGED HUMAN** 

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