

VILNIUS GEDIMINAS TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF CIVIL ENGINEERING

## TECHNOLOGY FORESIGHT AND SCENARIO PLANNING IN ENGINEERING

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# **PART V**

- Description and Explanation of Selected
   Foresight Methods: Extended SWOT Analysis
- ✓ Scenario Planning
- ✓ Foresight in Construction Industry



**SWOT** was developed by Kenneth Andrews in the early 1970s as an instrument of strategic management for companies.

**SWOT** analysis is an analytical method which is used to identify and categorise significant internal and external factors faced either in a particular arena, such as an organisation, or a territory, such as a region, nation, or city.

The **SWOT** analysis provides information that is helpful in matching the organisation's resources and capabilities to the competitive environment in which it operates. As such, it is instrumental in strategy formulation and selection.

Since then it has developed into many different versions and has been applied in many different fields (including foresight).

**SWOT** analysis can be a good starting point for the discussions in Foresight.



## **SWOT Analysis**

SWOT analysis is derived from environmental scan. An environmental scan is an objective review of the current and anticipated environmental factors that impact a given organization.

#### SWOT Analysis Framework



### **SWOT Analysis**

The essence of the classical SWOT analysis is to identify: **STRENGTHS**, **WEAKNESSES**, **OPPORTUNITIES** AND **THREATS** of a given object (company, organisation, region, process)



Strengths (internal, positive factors)
Weaknesses (internal, negative factors)
Opportunities (external, positive factors)
Threats (external, negative factors)



- **Existing factors** factors that exist at the moment of the study and currently influencing the analysed system
- **Potential factors** factors that may have a positive or negative influence on the system in future
- Factors originating from the inside of the system (internal) factors that characterise the activity and resources of the system
- Factors from the environment (external) factors originating from the outside of the system but influencing it
- **Favourable (positive) factors** factors positively influencing the system, originating either from inside or from outside of the system
- **Unfavourable (negative) factors** factors negatively influencing the system, originating either from inside or from outside of the system



![](_page_7_Picture_0.jpeg)

## **Exercise – SWOT Analysis**

For Civil Engineering Education in Lithuania determine:

- Strengths
- Weaknesses
- Stimulants
- De-stimulants
- Internal opportunities
- External opportunities
- Internal threats
- External threats

### Scenario method

![](_page_8_Picture_1.jpeg)

Scenario method is a procedure of a logical and coherent description of a chain of events in order to illustrate how the current state evolves into the future state.

**Scenario** is a description of interrelations between factors that determine the development of a given situation in a given time.

[A. H. Jasiński]

**Scenarios** are systematic visions of opportunities that the future may bring.

[I. Miles]

![](_page_9_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_10_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_11_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_12_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_13_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Scenario building concept The Future of Civil Engineering Education in Lithuania

#### **Key Factors:**

Ekon1: Government's prioritization of engineering studies

P2: Government spending on Civil Engineering education

![](_page_14_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Picture_1.jpeg)

**Built Environment** 

development imperative

Foresight 2030:

the sustainable

![](_page_17_Picture_2.jpeg)

Ireland

C2020 Vision. The Future of the Australian Construction Industry

Perspectives of the road surface technologies development in the context of sustainable development

**Construction IT In 2030: A Scenario Planning Approach** 

Technology Foresight Ireland - Construction and Infrastructure Panel

![](_page_18_Picture_0.jpeg)

Source: Harty, C., Goodier, C.I. Soetanto, R., Austin, S.A., Dainty, A.R.J., Price, A.D.F., *The Futures of Construction:* A critical review of construction future studies, Loughborough University, 2007

	<b>Overview of Construction Future Stu</b>	dies
	Specific issues identified in the construction future studies	(2/3)
Human	Reduction of skilled trades / consolidation of professions Shift education and training requirements Improved health and safety, welfare and working conditions Flexible working Smaller households Changing healthcare needs and requirements Vulnerability and security	
Economic	More profitable, efficient and competitive construction industry Increased foreign competition and globalisation Consolidation and de-fragmentation of construction industry Increased use of whole-life costing, PPP and PFI initiatives Increase gap between rich and poor	
Source: Harty, C., Goodier, C.I. Soetanto, R., Austin, S.A., Dainty, A.R.J., Price, A.D.F <i>., The Futures of Construction:</i> A critical review of construction future studies, Loughborough University, 2007 		

	<b>Overview of Construction Future Stud</b>	dies
	Specific issues identified in the construction future studies (	(3/3)
Governance	Changes in government policy Increased or alignment of legislation and regulation	
Other	Wild cards Major shocks	
Source: Harty, C., Goodier, C.I. Soetanto, R., Austin, S.A., Dainty, A.R.J., Price, A.D.F. <i>, The Futures of Construction:</i> A critical review of construction future studies, Loughborough University, 2007		
Technology foresight o	and scenario planning in engineering	21/25

	Two Scenarios (1/3)	
Nature of Change	Scenario 1	Scenario 2
Increased legislation and regulation	Opens up international / global markets for UK firms by providing common standards	UK market opened up to foreign competitors
	New competencies of construction professionals in ensuring compliance	Professionals become legislators rather than creative workers
Whole life cycle approach	Reintegration and consolidation of fragmented industry	Only a few large firms survive; SME's all but gone
	Consistent levels of work and income	Construction becomes a loss leader for FM and service provision

14 10

Source: Harty, C., Goodier, C.I. Soetanto, R., Austin, S.A., Dainty, A.R.J., Price, A.D.F., *The Futures of Construction:* A critical review of construction future studies, Loughborough University, 2007

![](_page_22_Picture_0.jpeg)

Two Scenarios (2/3) Education in The same building is constructed Construction seen as an objective construction and IT driven process, at expense again and again of creativity and inspiration Traditional skills based on-site are lost Professions as they stand are lost, replaced by 'jack of all trades' Construction work is colonised by manufacturing firms, both from UK and abroad Technology 1: Shift to The industry rhetoric comes true The same building is constructed more standardisation again and again and off-site construction Traditional skills based on-site are Economies of scale can be lost generated Standardised components reduce Construction work is colonised by risk in construction manufacturing firms, both from UK and abroad

Source: Harty, C., Goodier, C.I. Soetanto, R., Austin, S.A., Dainty, A.R.J., Price, A.D.F., *The Futures of Construction:* A critical review of construction future studies, Loughborough University, 2007

![](_page_23_Picture_0.jpeg)

Two Scenarios (3/3)

Technology 2: Use of common Information Sharing platforms	Construction process much more transparent and errors and delays resulting from communication problems eliminated	Competitive edge and distinctiveness / individuality of firms and professionals lost		
•	Clients take a proactive role in design	Design becomes the reproduction of client expectations and internal innovation is stultified		
Technology 3: Automation and robotics	Health and safety greatly improved by use of robots in potentially hazardous environments	Tradesmen are replaced by robots and traditional skills are lost		
	Higher accuracy and standards of work achieved			
Source: Harty, C., Goodier, C.I. Soetanto, R., Austin, S.A., Dainty, A.R.J., Price, A.D.F., <i>The Futures of Construction:</i> A critical review of construction future studies, Loughborough University, 2007				

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### Thank you for your attention!

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