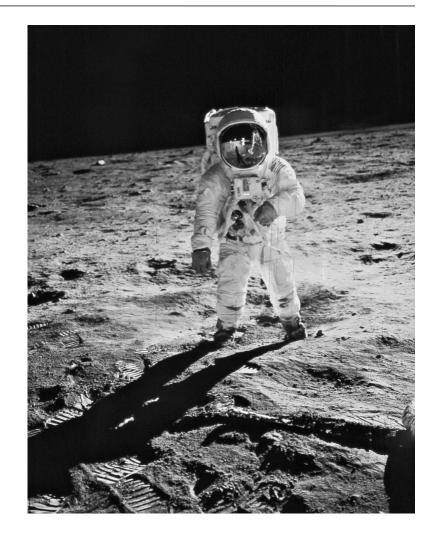
# **Global Trends and Their Insurance Implications**

Aon Benfield Research Conference Stephen J. Mildenhall 18 July 2013

# AONBENFIELD

Change	Then
Space travel	Men on the moon
Car of future	Flying
Energy	Running out



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Change	Then
Navigation	Maps
Information	Yellow pages
Communications	~\$3 / minute
Containers (1966)	1% of countries





2



Change	Then
Income level	Sing \$2K, US \$5K
Life expectancy (US)	71
Pensions	Company provided
Dread disease	Cancer
Healthcare	Company provided



Singapore, 1970



Change	Then	Now
Space travel	Men on the moon	Private space travel
Car of future	Flying	Terrestrial, self-driving
Energy	Running out	Shale gas
Navigation	Maps	GPS
Information	Yellow pages	Internet
Communications	~\$3 / minute	~6 cents / minute
Containers (1966)	1% of countries	90% of countries
Income level	Sing \$2K, US \$5K	Sing \$51K, US \$46K
Life expectancy (US)	71	79 (1 year every 5)
Pensions	Company provided	State & self-directed
Dread diseases	Cancer	Cancer, AIDS, TB
Healthcare	Company provided	State & self-directed

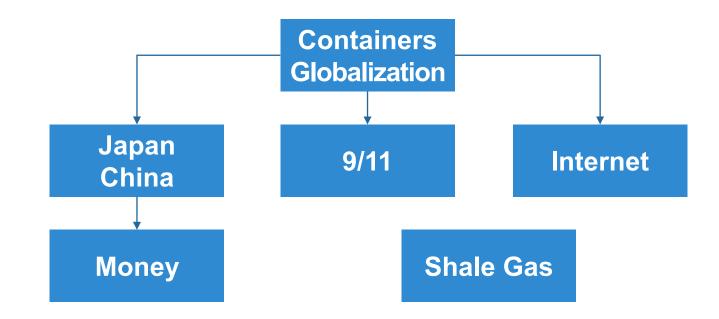




Change	Now	Implications	
Space travel	Private space travel	Inhospitable environment	
Car of future	Self-driving	Decline in personal auto insurance	
Energy	Shale gas	Inspires faith in technology	
Navigation	GPS	Data; e.g. cat modeling	
Information	Internet	Profound: distribution, competition	
Communications	~6 cents / minute	Global manufacturing	
Containers (1966)	90% of countries	80% lower ins. costs, efficiencies	
Income level	Sing \$51K, US \$46K	Growth inspired future promises	
Life expectancy (US)	79	Elder care, dependency ratios	
Pensions	State & self-directed	Insurance opportunities, education	
Dread diseases	Cancer, AIDS, TB	Cost of care, genetics, discrimination	
Healthcare	State & self-directed	Insurance, allocation of resources	



# Six defining trends and events since 1970



- Long-term trends, not defining trends
  - Urbanization
  - Longevity
  - Health care costs

- Changed less than expected
  - Cars
  - Air travel, e.g. 747s
  - Space exploration

- Better than expected
  - Crime rates
  - Pollution
  - Natural resources

RENEIELD

Innovation
6

## **Containers = Globalization**

#### Implications

Neutered labor, contained inflation

Increased income inequality & lowered extreme poverty

Logistical challenges

Global connectedness

Currency imbalances

## **Insurance Implications**

Modeling inter-connections and managing supplychain risk

Currency risk

Political risk, risk of politics, reputational risk

Marine and aviation insurance

Products liability



## The experiences of Japan and China

#### Implications

Japan success 1945-90

Japan stagnation 1991-2013

Zombie banks

China growth, demographic challenges

Labor, trade and currency imbalances

#### **Insurance Implications**

Massive concentrations exposed to wind, quake and flood

Massive opportunity: low insurance penetration in China

Insurance dominated by domestic carriers

Challenging regulation



## The changing nature of money

#### Implications

August 15, 1971 US stops gold convertibility

Decoupling of financial world from real world, derivatives explosion

Unregulated shadow banking

US reserve currency Euro currency crisis

Too big to fail and country-level regulation of multinationals

## **Insurance Implications**

Solvency threatening financial risk

Low yields pressure accumulation products

Liquidity funding low-cost catastrophe risk capital



## 9/11 and the threat of large scale terrorism

#### Implications

Threat to global security: potential for large-scale devastation & catastrophe

Expense of precautions

Military response Military spending

Blurred definition of war, extension of state power, drone strikes

Berlin Wall, fall of communism

#### **Insurance Implications**

Uninsurable exposures NCBR

Accumulation monitoring and underwriting

Severity modeling

Frequency modeling

Response planning



## Internet

## Implications

Conception of knowledge

Education, MOOCs

Retail

Entertainment

Social media Image, reviews Protest

## **Insurance Implications**

Distribution

Easy price comparison increasing competition

**Business efficiencies** 

Service expectations, online capabilities

Cyber-crime and cyberliability



## Shale Gas

## Implications

Redraws energy powermap

Assures immediate-future energy security

Fracking and ecology Climate / CO<sub>2</sub>

Decreases pressure to develop alternative energy sources

## **Insurance Implications**

Energy insurance, now in easier jurisdictions

Pollution

New technology, fracking "earthquakes"



## Four defining trends for the next 40 years





Niels Bohr

## **Natural Resources**

Concerns
Food
Water
Metals and minerals
Oil and gas

## **Insurance Implications**

Crop

Products liability, GM seeds

Social unrest: riot, civil commotion, war



## **Productivity Improvements**

# Everything depends on continued productivity improvements

but they are not guaranteed

## **Productivity Improvements**

#### Concerns

Paying for pension promises

Paying for health care promises

Achieving further global poverty reduction

**Political stability** 

Ensuring energy and food resources – what is "fracking for food"

## Insurance Implications

Achieving returns to support accumulation products

Capital strains from asset return shortfalls

Adverse regulatory activity from political scape-goating

Fewer government subsidies

...go well beyond insurance



## **Financial Security**

#### Concerns

Employment and income security

**Retirement income** 

Healthcare

Debtors vs. creditors

Generational conflict

## **Insurance Implications**

Full or supplemental private pensions

Full or supplemental health insurance

Elder care

Supplemental unemployment insurances





#### Concerns

Tendency for rare, but catastrophic failure with improved "small risk" safety

Geomagnetic storm

Pandemic

Black Swan

## **Insurance Implications**

Decreasing demand for standard insurance lines

Increased need for capacity products

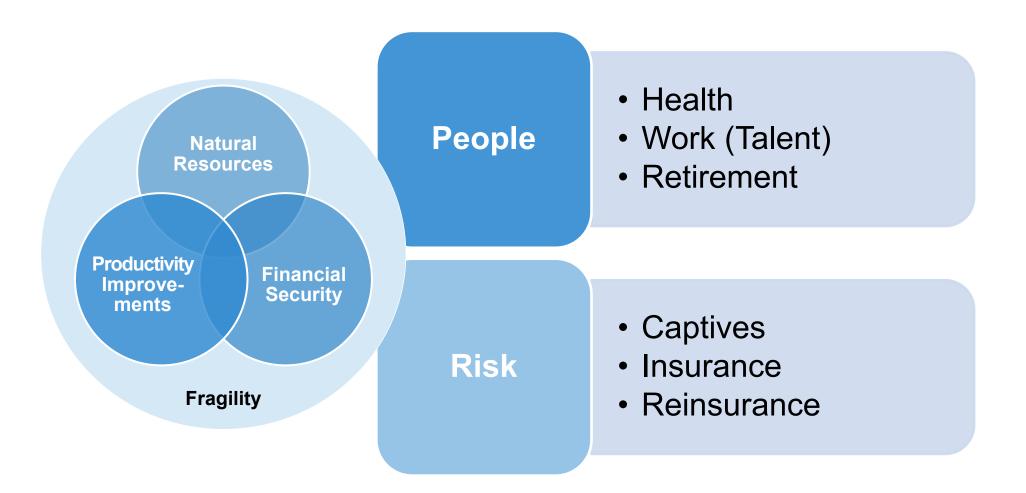
Product design and product relevance hard to maintain

Increased operational risk, e.g. Thailand flood

More surprises drive higher capital requirement and lower ROE



# Aon focused on risks in financial security and fragility





## **Contact Information**

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Change	Then	Now	Implications
Space travel	Men on the moon	Private space travel	Terrestrial interests
Car of future	Flying	Self-driving	Personal auto ins.
Energy	Running out	Shale gas	Faith in technology
Navigation	Maps	GPS	Data; cat modeling
Information	Yellow pages	Internet	Profound
Communications	~\$10 / minute	~6 cents / minute	Global manufacturing
Containers (1966)	1% of countries	90% of countries	80% lower ins. costs
Income level	Sing \$2K, US \$5K	Sing \$51K, US \$46K	Future promises
Life expectancy (US)	71	79	Elder care
Pensions	Company provided	State & self-directed	Insurance, education
Dread diseases	Cancer	Cancer, AIDS, TB	Cost of care, genetics
Healthcare	Company provided	State & self-directed	Insurance, allocation



