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about the future; 2.3 The value of scenarios; 2.4 Visions; 2.5 Conclusion; 3. The starting point: planet 2010; 3.1 Introduction; 3.2 The state of the environment; 3.3 Retracing our steps: how did we get to 2010?; 3.4 The changing relationship between society and nature; 3.5 Society in 2010; 3.6 Governance 3.7 The global economy 3.8 The role of belief and values; 3.9 Quality of life; 3.10 Looking forward from 2010; 4. The vision of 2050; 4.1 Introduction; 4.2 The broad vision of societal development; 4.3 Energy in 2050; 4.4 The environment in 2050; 4.5 2050: a stepping stone to the future; 5. Pathways between 2010 and 2050; 5.1 Introduction; 5.2 The pathways; 5.3 Different choices in different places; 5.4 Responding to environmental challenges; 5.5 Conclusion; 6. Back to the reality of 2010 and the challenges ahead; 6.1 Introduction; 6.2 The challenge of education and awareness-building 6.3 The challenges of creativity 6.4 The challenge of the global economy; 6.5 The challenge of time-scale; 6.6 The challenge of complexity and irreversibility; 6.7 Institutional challenges (with an emphasis on the energy sector); 6.8 The overriding challenge; Notes; References; Index

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Sommario/riassunto

<P>In 2050, the billions of people living on Earth have found a way to manage the planetary system effectively. Everyone has access to adequate food, shelter, and clean water. Human health is no longer considered outside of the health of the ecosystems in which people live. Ecological awareness is an integral part of education. People respond effectively to social and environmental hazards, and societies care for the most vulnerable amongst them. The economy, too, has shifted. Carbon dioxide management is under control, and energy efficiency is the norm. The remaining rainforests have been pre

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