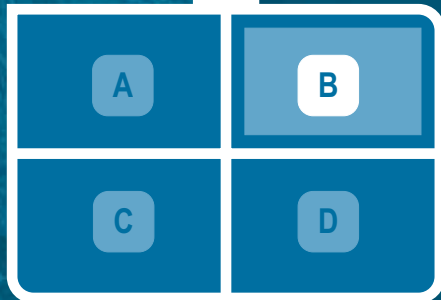




## INDEPENDENT AOTEAROA



- By 2055, Aotearoa – New Zealand is a dynamic cohesive society, seeing itself as a global citizen. Whilst outward looking it remains critical and is confident enough to be distinctly different as a South Pacific nation.
- Government seeks and coordinates solutions to climate, environmental and social sustainability challenges. This is a slow process which frustrates some.
- There has been a clear shift from ‘first come first served’ market economics to a more participative governance and regulation. This values social and cultural wellbeing and long term benefits over short term profits. Although the knowledge-based economy is slow growing its benefits are shared equitably. This however, discourages the individualist entrepreneurs, some of whom take their skills abroad.
- The amount of materials, water and energy required to produce goods has reduced, while economic benefits (and even exports) flow from introduction of ‘clean,’ efficient technologies. Less unprocessed primary produce is exported than in 2020.
- Sustainability is a conscious lifestyle choice for many, resulting from a values shift, as Aotearoa – New Zealand decided to ‘go its own way’. Some disagree and contribute much heat to the debate.



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## LIVING ON N<sup>o</sup>8 WIRE

- Until 2025, ‘sustainability’ and responding to climate change were dismissed as faddish bleatings of a liberal minority. They were largely ignored until the social impact of resource shortages, environmental degradation and economic downturn, resulted in a reappraisal of values. The damaged resource base and rising environmental regulation had also made it less attractive to multi-national investment.
- After that, concern rose for environmental restoration. The good effect of resulting innovative action is visible now in 2055.
- Government began to intervene after 2025 to manage trade-offs between economic gain and environmental degradation, to increase trade barriers and promote equitable redistribution.
- In 2055 New Zealand is a modest subsistence economy and has mostly opted out of the Global economy. This has created a cohesive, inward-looking society.
- Due to greater emphasis on subsistence living, settlements are less densely urbanized.
- Strong emphasis on community initiative and social innovation to find affordable local solutions.
- Innovative solutions predominate to gain economic, social and environmental sustainability. These are ingenious people in the Kiwi No. 8 Wire tradition.



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- In 2055, identity is individualistic, defined by visible financial status rather than which group you were raised by. Society is fragmented - the losers feel inequality while the winners enjoy their freedoms.
- State role is reduced to maintaining law and order and governing markets, but is much less involved in environmental protection including climate change responses than in the 2020's.
- Once-public services, like health and education have been privatized, creating new business opportunities.
- The entrepreneurial culture encouraged rapid introduction and development of more efficient technology, some of which protected the environment, but the main criteria for success was profitability. The population still shares a faith in technology to solve problems.
- The exploitative & extractive mindset became increasingly desperate as the local resource base depleted, leading to an economic downturn from 2030.
- In 2055, the economy remains globalised and regional differences have been diminished. Market forces still prevail creating an internationally mobile workforce. The well-educated often leave.
- Sustainability is a notion remembered by a minority without political influence, sometimes expressed through 'eco-terrorism'.



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# FRUITS FOR A FEW

A	B
C	D

- The need to adapt to climate change and environmental damage led to tight resource control in the 2020's, with benefits in the private sector and costs on the wider public.
- Natural resources are used more efficiently now in 2055, and access to them is limited by their rich owners.
- Formerly common resources and public land were privatized by 2030.
- Those owning property and resources obtained strongest rights and administrative role in society, while government role overall has diminished.
- Moderate but variable economic growth. Due to environmental and other regulation by those holding power, the benefits of economic growth are concentrated in ever fewer hands.
- Within a divided society, there are strengthening regional and cultural identities. The poorer majority population returned to family structures and traditions of the group for support. Those in power look after each other financially, but in culture are more internationally influenced.
- Sustainability here is a narrow term defined by accountants and economists to maximise profit and environmental protection for the benefit of large corporates.



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