Figure II: The Global Risks Landscape 2020

Top 10 risks in terms of Likelihood
1. Extreme weather
2. Climate action failure
3. Natural disasters
4. Biodiversity loss
5. Human-made environmental disasters
6. Data fraud or theft
7. Cyberattacks
8. Water crises
9. Global governance failure
10. Asset bubbles

Top 10 risks in terms of Impact
1. Climate action failure
2. Weapons of mass destruction
3. Biodiversity loss
4. Extreme weather
5. Water crises
6. Information infrastructure breakdown
7. Natural disasters
8. Cyberattacks
9. Human-made environmental disasters
10. Infectious diseases


Note: Survey respondents were asked to assess the likelihood of the individual global risk on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 representing a risk that is very unlikely to happen and 5 a risk that is very likely to occur. They also assessed the impact of each global risk on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 representing a minimal impact and 5 a catastrophic impact. To ensure legibility, the names of the global risks are abbreviated; see Appendix A for the full name and description.