

Cash of the Future

- A scenario study

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Motivation for the study: thinking about the future today



Cash should remain an attractive, secure and competitive means of payment in the future.



For this to be the case, the Bundesbank needs to have a sense of the setting in which cash will be embedded in the years to come.



To this end, the Bundesbank commissioned the “Cash of the future” study in order to construct future scenarios.

The scenarios are not forecasts



Scenarios are hypothetical visions of the future in a certain area.



They show alternative developments and paths.

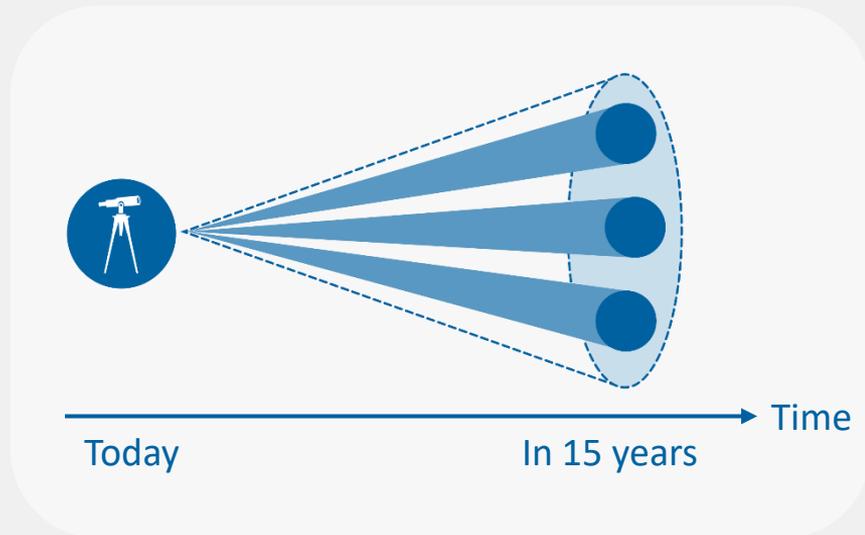


They assist with orientation.



They act as an aid for decision-makers in terms of strategic planning.

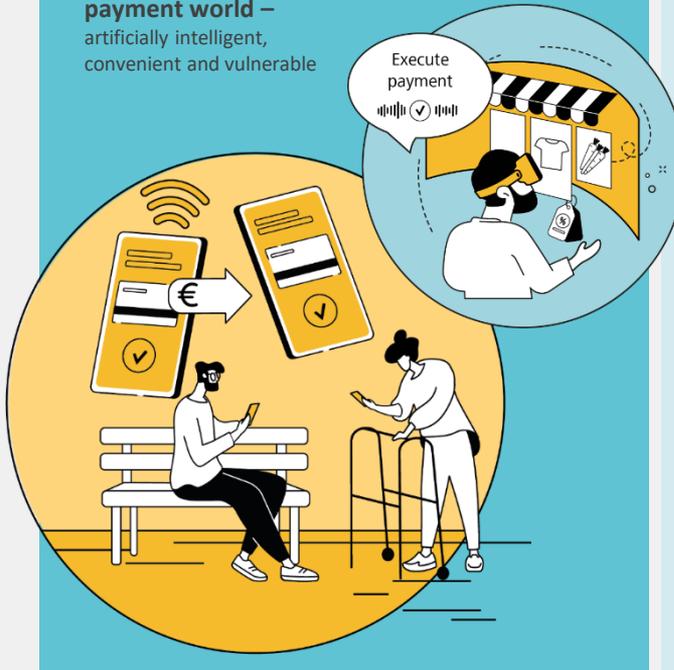
Scenarios in the “Cash of the future” study



- The scenarios were based on literature research, interviews and workshops with experts, and a representative survey of the general public
- Data-based, descriptive, possible and intrinsically plausible scenarios
- Visions of the future for cash and the cash cycle up to 2037

Scenarios in the “Cash of the future” study

The hyperdigital payment world –
artificially intelligent,
convenient and vulnerable



The cash renaissance payment world –
smart, self-determined
and resilient



The vanishing hybrid payment world –
pluralistic, segregated and
indifferent



Illustrations: Schaltzeit GmbH, Magdalena Soetebeer

A future with cash should not be taken for granted



Our surveys show: the public wants the **freedom of choice** between cash and cashless payment options in the future, too.

Cash fulfils a very important **stabilising function**, especially during times of crisis, but only if there is sufficient cash infrastructure.



In **two of the three scenarios**, access to and **acceptance** of cash would **no longer be guaranteed**. This essentially eliminates the freedom of choice and jeopardises the stabilising function of cash.

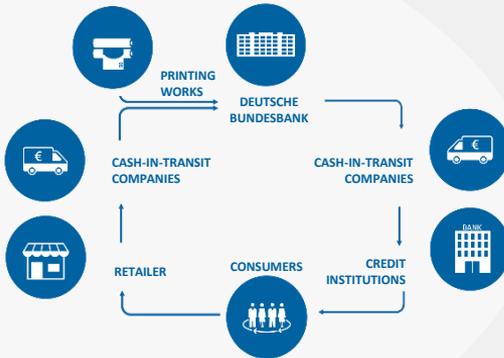
Illustrations: Schaltzeit GmbH, Magdalena Soetebeer

All stakeholders need to take action

The scenarios reveal differing **needs for action by all stakeholders** in the cash cycle as well as politics.

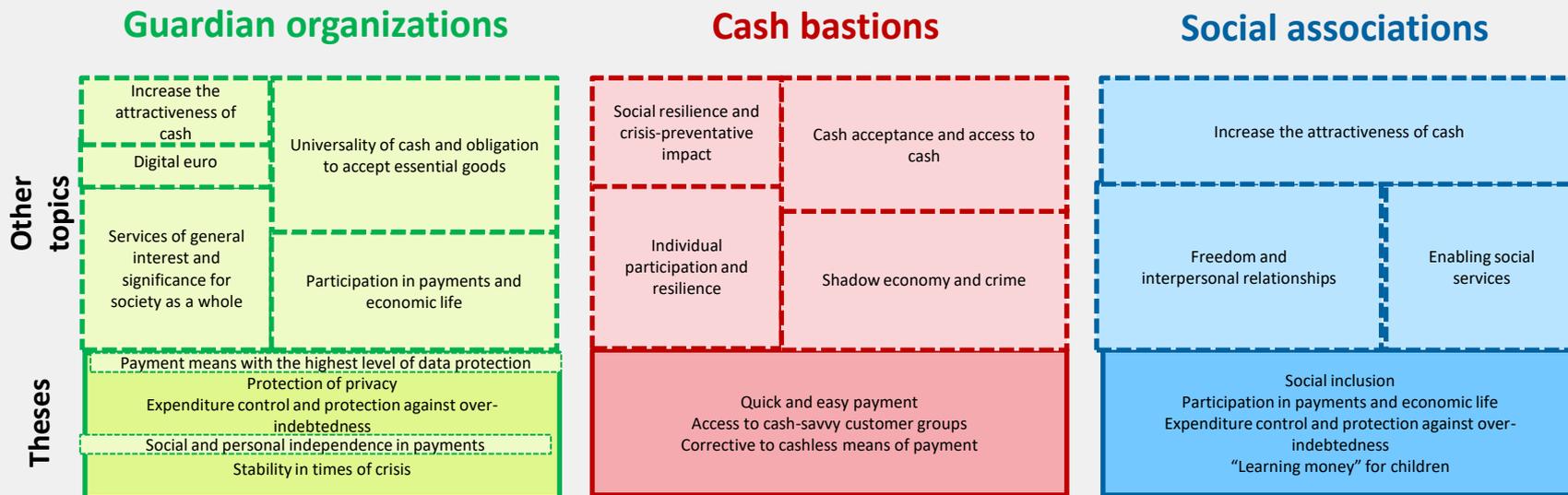
All stakeholders now need to seize the opportunity to play an **active role in influencing developments**. The Bundesbank cannot do this alone. We need the cooperation of policymakers and the economy.

The Bundesbank intends to step up its existing **cooperation** with stakeholders in the cash cycle and to open up new channels to do so => National Cash Forum.



Source: Bundesbank

- **Idea: Workshops with groups of civil society** based on findings from “Cash of the future”, which aspects of cash are particularly relevant for different groups



➤ Result: so called **topic papers** as part of the workshop documentation → No (content-related) adjustments by or coordination with the parties involved

- Disclaimers in headers and on the last page

Own publications by external project participants as well as media resonance

Pressemittellung
Bäckerhandwerk betont Bargeld als unverzichtbar



Der Zentralverband des Deutschen Bäckerhandwerks begrüßt die heute von der Bundesbank veröffentlichten Themenpapiere aus einem von ihr durchgeführten Dialog zur Zukunft des Bargelds. Der Zentralverband...

iff setzt sich mit Bundesbank und weiteren Organisationen für Bargeld ein

23.08.2024 | Allgemein, Digitalisierung, Duygu Damar-Blanken, iff-news

22.08.2024, 17:48 Uhr

Audiobeitrag

🏠 > Sozialverbände und Bundesbank: Bargeld muss erhalten bleiben

Sozialverbände und Bundesbank: Bargeld muss erhalten bleiben

Source: BR24

Continuing the dialogue

fields of action

- Create an understanding of the importance and added value of cash
- Build up a wealth of knowledge
- Empowerment of stakeholder groups
- Facilitate communication on cash issues



- Enable target group-specific awareness-raising
- Raising awareness to the public and politics
- Merge dialogue across the three groups
- Anchor the relevance of cash in social discourse

Study available at:

<https://www.bundesbank.de/de/publikationen/berichte/studien/bargeld-der-zukunft-921808>

Monthly report available at:

The outlook for cash - a systematic look at the future of cash - Monthly Report - January 2024 ([bundesbank.de](https://www.bundesbank.de))

Dialogue with civil society (only in German):

Organisationen der Zivilgesellschaft betonen Stellenwert von Bargeld | Deutsche Bundesbank

Further Information National Cash Forum:

<https://www.bundesbank.de/en/tasks/cash-management/national-cash-forum-924968>

Thank you for your attention.

I look forward to answering your questions.