



# Practical Foresight Guide

## Preface

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In recent years there has been a growing interest in collective strategic foresight under increasing uncertainty both within organizations and in literature on strategic thinking. But, framework systems to help organizations properly structure foresight activities to aid faster and better decision-making and rapid increases in performance are sadly lacking.



This encyclopaedic handbook provides commercial, not-for-profit, academia, government organizations and future-interested people with the concepts and practical approaches to develop systematic, collaborative foresight capabilities with limited external help and at low cost:

- The theory behind and benefits to be gained from adopting practical foresight.
- Practical guidance on how to accomplish specific foresight tasks.
- Information and examples of best and next practice.
- Advice on designing strategic foresight projects and programs.
- A reference guide.
- A refresher and reminder of ways to approach different issues.
- The ingredients to achieve successful outcomes and observable improvements.
- The potential to create "disruptive" innovation.
- Bulleted check-lists to remind, provoke, and ensure completeness.

The handbook has been designed in eleven sequential chapters, for ease of reference:

[Foresight](#), [Questioning](#), [Methods](#), [Scanning](#), [Planning](#), [Acting](#), [Networking](#), [Changing](#), [Your future](#), [Reading](#), [Glossary](#)

The handbook is a stop on the journey to the future; not a destination. As such it suggests a provisional general framework of research and analysis that clearly defines how all strategic foresight activities can be carried out by any organization willing to invest in better ensuring its future survival and success.

The handbook is intended to provide ideas on how to think about, anticipate and adapt to the future, but is not a book to determine specific questions about what is on the horizon or the suggested best response; that's your job!

### Who is it for?

This handbook is for people who are:

- Charged with designing and running foresight programs and projects.
- Engaged in change management.
- Seeking to inspire, engage, and enable other collaborators interested in knowing answers to how the future may turn out.

- Wanting to be true leaders of their communities and next practice thought leaders including:
  - Executives
  - Planners
  - Risk assessors
  - Innovators
  - Trend watchers
  - Marketers
  - Change agents
  - Portfolio managers
  - Intelligence advisers
  - Warning officers
  - Designers
  - Management developers
  - Business developers
  - Entrepreneurs
  - M&A analysts
  - Students of foresight
  - Consultants
  - Futurists
  - Policy makers
  - Educators
  - R&D leaders

#### Quote

"It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent, but rather the one most responsive to change."

(Charles Darwin)