

ABC's

of Institutionalizing Foresight & Futures

AN INQUIRY-BASED FRAMEWORK

The ABC's of Institutionalizing Foresight & Futures is a concise inquiry-based framework developed to help organizations grapple with the opportunities and challenges of embedding foresight and futures practices. By inviting you to ask and answer questions, this framework helps home in on the "how" of bringing foresight and futures to our organizations.

The ABC framework is accompanied by an additional set of exploratory discussion questions to help elucidate the current state, the needs, resources and opportunities for adopting foresight and futures in your organization. Together, these questions will help to arrive not just at a shared understanding of foresight and futures tools and approaches, but also of how they are linked to (and reflected in) the organization's work, strategy and processes.

Appreciation & Appetite

CREATING ORGANIZATIONAL BUY-IN FOR FORESIGHT

- How do you build awareness and understanding of foresight across your organization?
- How do you recognize the value of, and demand for, leveraging foresight and futures tools and approaches across the organization?
- What might be a meaningful starting point for bringing foresight and futures into your institution?

Building & Bringing to Bear

EMBEDDING FORESIGHT INTO ORGANIZATIONAL PRACTICE

- What protocols, processes, procedures are needed to embed foresight and futures into your organization?
- What structures and roles need to be adjusted or created in order to make foresight and futures a core component of your organization's work?
- What skills, competencies, and mindsets are needed across your organization to adopt foresight and futures practices?

Cross-pollinating & Committing

ONGOING LEARNING, EXPERIMENTING, AND PRACTICING OF FORESIGHT

- How do you share learnings across your organization and externally?
- How do you make foresight and futures a regular part of your organizational practice across all levels of your staff?
- How do you engage in sensemaking with external partners and friendly contrarians to test assumptions and expand perspectives?

Discussion Questions

EXPANDING THE CONVERSATION

- What is your experience in institutionalizing foresight and futures?
- What are some existing or potential barriers and challenges in adopting foresight and futures?
- What is the ideal state and caliber of foresight and futures within your organization?
- What support and resources do you need to advance your efforts?
- Who are your internal and external partners in this journey?
- What capabilities, competencies, and mindsets are needed across your organization to make this happen?
- How do you encourage participatory engagement that is intergenerational, accessible, and inclusive?
- What existing or emerging opportunities have you encountered, or do you anticipate, in adopting foresight and futures?
- How might foresight and futures serve as a vehicle to strengthen or amplify your organization's mission and values?