



**FACULTY
DEVELOPMENT
ACADEMY**
Enabling Decisions for Tomorrow



Gaming for Futures, Innovation and Participation

Course Overview

“Everyone here has the sense that right now is one of those moments when we are influencing the future”

– Steve Jobs



Why **GAMING?**

Change is happening all around us, and when we widen our gaze, there are threats to avoid, opportunities to access, and visions that inspire us. Thinking about the future helps us to identify threats to sustainability, take advantage of emerging opportunities, develop shared visions of a desirable future and build plans and strategies to achieve that future. With an awareness of increasing rates of change, foresight has acquired prominence as a process aiming to support forward-looking opinion formation in decision-making, both for public policies and businesses.

Moving onwards from expert led foresight, foresight practitioners now actively include participants in the futures creation process, through gaming and play. This way, participants are not mere spectators or receivers of the futures, but active creators – mind, body, and spirit. The futurist becomes thus a content facilitator, helping participants explore alternative futures and create desired futures. It is in this context that gaming the future has become more important.

Gaming helps participants confront their own worldviews and beliefs and to see “where they stand” in relationship to others. Engaging in “deep play” releases the potential present in every moment to transform our perspectives and being. Futures-play allows participants to feel free to experiment with different futures and development, to play with alternative scenarios of the future and attempt to (re-)construct their perception of reality. Many participants of such futures gaming events, even invent new pathways to preferred organizational and personal futures.

You are invited to come and play!



What to **EXPECT?**

- An understanding of foresight based on experiential processes, rather than just abstract learning, aiding memory and comprehension.
- An introduction to key foresight frameworks and methods, with the critical concepts for each game.
- Using games to design more imaginative, inclusive, and impactful participatory futures.
- The experience of playing foresight games that participants can run in their own organization / community.





Course **METHODOLOGY**

A balanced approach of presentations, game play, discussions and the practical application of strategic foresight methods will be used throughout the workshop. The practical application will be based on examining a current topic of participant interest to show how strategic foresight can be used to develop insights about the future. During the workshop, participants will engage in gaming for creativity and imagining possible futures quickly and collaboratively. Participants will discuss emerging visions for the future, technological innovations, and implications for the participants' own practice, as well as institutional context.



Course **CONTENTS**

- An introduction to thinking about the future; rationales and objectives of foresight.
- Polak Game – to explore perceptions and other worldviews
- Sarkar Game – a role playing archetype based-game where participants confront their own worldviews and beliefs
- The Time Traveler Game – insights and understanding of future possibilities.
- Our Futures – A game created by NESTA to explore wicked problems and participatory futures.
- Reflections on key insights and moving ahead. (Depending on audience and time, other games and participatory activities can also be incorporated)

2
DAYS

DURATION

in-person / online





Who should **ENROLL?**

- Faculty
- Non Faculty

The audience for this workshop is as diverse as humanity. More specifically, this workshop is for business leaders, innovation enthusiasts, design thinkers, academics, policy makers, provocateurs and thought multipliers.





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