



IFTF Scenario Building

Learn the art and science of visionary alternative futures scenarios—one of the most rewarding, impactful, and challenging activities in foresight practice. IFTF's own senior researchers will share secrets of the scenario craft and coach you through our unique scenario building system. You'll learn how to move beyond the noise of a future-changing event and construct a systematic framework for making sense of uncertainties.



Foresight Essentials

Upskill your foresight with scenario building

In times of high uncertainty, one essential foresight method stands out—alternative futures scenarios. This rich scenario framework helps sort through the chaos and complexity of world-changing moments like the COVID-19 pandemic. It provides the thought tools to organize overwhelming events, signals, and memes into four clear paths to the future—and to convert those paths to action.

The building blocks

Join IFTF Foresight Essentials for an in-depth training on Scenario Building. We will introduce the mythic underpinnings of the alternative futures method as practiced at IFTF. Then we will dive into the basic building blocks of scenario-based storytelling—from people and places, time horizons, and forces in play, to the values and leverage points that set the course for each scenario.

Over three half-day sessions, we'll use the post-pandemic environment and all the system frailties it has revealed to build four visions of the future: growth, constraint, collapse, and transformation. We'll start from IFTF's own baseline post-pandemic scenarios and work in teams to create authentic visions for our diverse stakeholders. Then we'll convert those visions to strategic action plans.

Grounding in the pandemic moment

In addition to immersing yourself in IFTF's unique scenario-building system, you'll get an in-depth immersion in our post-pandemic foresight. These basic frameworks will help you sort through signals for the future of health, food, education, work, data, and the climate emergency.

In short, the course will help you build your own personal scaffolding to think systematically about complex futures—and to convert your insights into compelling stories that can guide others through the uncertainty.



Participants will:

Frame and develop robust alternative futures scenarios

Build an action agenda from futures scenarios

Map potential post-pandemic impacts

The course includes:

Live-online instruction conducted by IFTF researchers

Immersion in alternative futures scenario building skills, methodologies, and processes

Proprietary IFTF toolkit processes

Presenter slides

Certificate of completion in alternative scenarios

Networking opportunities with attendees

Agenda

Orientation

Get comfortable with Miro, the collaborative online platform that we'll be using extensively in the Scenario Building. This optional orientation is recommended for participants new to Miro.

Session 1 | Orient to Alternative Futures

Learn the foundational framework, compare scenario examples and use cases, meet your new colleagues, and brainstorm initial ideas about our scenario domain. Get oriented to four alternative futures.

Session 2 | Define Parameters

Begin the scenario definition process by identifying key stakeholders and infrastructure, delving into stakeholder mindsets, and working with the mythic questions at the heart of each scenario archetype.

Session 3 | Build a Research Grid

Begin the scenario definition process by identifying key stakeholders and infrastructure, delving into stakeholder mindsets, and working with the mythic questions at the heart of each scenario archetype.

Session 4 | Bring Your Scenario to Life

Balance and adjust across all four scenarios, build your narrative along three unfolding horizons of change, then finalize your vision in a scenario board.

Session 5 | Insight to Action

Turn your scenario board into a short narrative, learn how to facilitate insight sessions with completed scenarios, and plan your own scenario-building future.

REGISTRATION

	Price
Standard	\$3,500
Nonprofit/education/government	\$3,000
IFTF Vantage partners	\$3,000
IFTF Foresight Essentials alumni	\$3,000

Space is limited. Early registration recommended.

MORE INFORMATION

www.iftf.org/foresightessentials/scenario-building/

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Institute for the Future (IFTF) is the world's leading futures organization. For over 50 years, businesses, governments, and social impact organizations have depended upon IFTF's global forecasts, custom research, foresight education and training to navigate complex change and develop future-ready strategies. IFTF is a registered 501c(3) non-profit educational organization based in Palo Alto, California. For more information, visit iftf.org.