SCENARIOS WORKSHOP

INTRODUCTION AND ROADMAP

What is Scenario-Based Planning?

- Under the premise that we cannot successfully predict the future, we prepare for change by treating the future as a set of plausible alternatives.
- By identifying and examining these alternatives, futures analysis can generate useful strategic foresight and influence proactive efforts to steer an organization toward preferred future alternatives.

Goals of This Workshop

- Provoke new lines of thinking by involving broad participation from leaders in government, industry, non-profit organizations, think tanks, and academia to identify mitigating solutions for emerging and evolving risks
- Increase risk awareness and encourage systems-level thinking
- Identify strategies that are robust against uncertainty (i.e., multiple plausible futures) to inform strategic planning

About the Scenarios

- Please refer to your player packets for a brief synopsis of each scenario
- The three narratives are built around three topics that cut across multiple National Critical Functions:
  - Brain-computer interfaces
  - Quantum technologies
  - Synthetic biology

The Scenarios

1. Technology Doldrums
2. New Golden Age of Technology
3. Running Free

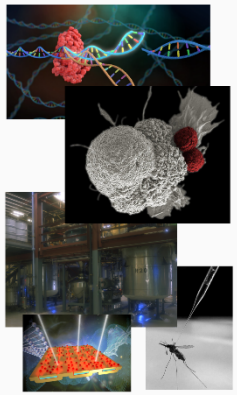
Workshop Agenda

Day One	
1–1:45 p.m.	Framing the workshop
1:45–2:30 p.m.	Icebreaker exercise: Are we there yet?
2:30–2:45 p.m.	Break
2:45–5 p.m.	Scenario breakouts

Day Two	
1–1:10 p.m.	Welcome back and roadmap for the day's activities
1:10–1:55 p.m.	Alternative future stress test: Round 1
1:55–2:40 p.m.	Alternative future stress test: Round 2
2:40–2:55 p.m.	Break
2:55–3:45 p.m.	Synthesis and reflection
3:45–4 p.m.	Closing remarks

Day One: Icebreaker Exercise

Topic #5: Synthetic Biology



How many of the following statements about synthetic biology will be true?

By 2035, synthetic biology...

- ...will allow many forms of cancer to be cured
- ...will have provided a viable alternative to fossil fuels for petrochemical generation
- ...will produce cell-cultured seafoods that are widely available for consumers
- ...will lead to the eradication of malaria

1	At least one
2	At least two
3	At least three
4	All four
5	None

Topic	Detail
Session Objectives	▪ Orient your thinking toward the future ▪ Free your minds from constraints imposed by current conditions, priorities, and working conditions ▪ Prepare for the scenario-based discussions that comprise the rest of the workshop
Outputs	Everyone ready to discuss risks and risk mitigation measures applicable to ***future*** scenarios, not constrained by the present

Day One: Scenario Breakouts

Topic	Detail
Session Objectives	▪ To explore the scenario, reacting to and building on the narrative using participants' expertise and perspectives ▪ To understand how the scenario conditions will lead to emerging and evolving risks for critical infrastructure and to identify mitigation strategies for those risks ▪ To prioritize five risk-mitigation strategies to increase security and resilience toward what occurs in the scenario
Outputs	A prioritized list of up to five recommended risk-mitigation strategies to improve critical infrastructure resilience and security in the world described by the scenario

Day Two: Stress-Test Rounds

Topic	Detail
Session Objectives	To discuss and perform a basic assessment of how relevant the presenting team's risk-mitigation strategies are for the receiving group's scenario
Outputs	▪ Information on which risk-mitigation strategies were judged to be more relevant and useful to alternative futures ▪ Possible modifications to the risk-mitigation strategies that would make them more relevant and useful in the face of future uncertainty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