

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 four narratives are built around three topics that cut across multiple National Critical Functions:
 - Anonymity and privacy
 - Trust and social cohesion
 - Data storage and transmission

The Scenarios

1. Life Under a Microscope
2. A Fragmented World
3. Deep Disinformation
4. New Wave of Cooperation



Workshop Agenda

Day One

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 1:00–1:45pm | Framing the workshop |
| 1:45–2:30pm | Icebreaker exercise: Are we there yet? |
| 2:30–2:45pm | Break |
| 2:45–4:45pm | Scenario breakouts |
| 4:45–4:55pm | Closing remarks |

Day Two

| | |
|-------------|---|
| 1:00–1:10pm | Welcome back and roadmap for the day's activities |
| 1:10–1:55pm | Alternative future stress test: Round 1 |
| 1:55–2:40pm | Alternative future stress test: Round 2 |
| 2:40–2:55pm | Break |
| 2:55–3:40pm | Alternative future stress test: Round 3 |
| 3:40–4:30pm | Synthesis and reflection |
| 4:30–4:45pm | Closing remarks |



Day One: Icebreaker Exercise

Topic #1: Space Travel



By 2031, the United States...

- 1 ...will not have returned to the moon
- 2 ...will have successfully returned to the moon
- 3 ...will have successfully sent individuals to Mars
- 4 ...will have successfully sent individuals beyond Mars

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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 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 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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="452 634 1765 733">▪ Information on which risk mitigation strategies were judged to be more relevant and useful to alternative futures<li data-bbox="452 779 1754 939">▪ Possible modifications to the risk mitigation strategies that would make them more relevant and useful in the face of future uncertainty |



