

Renewing Scenario Planning and Foresight Processes

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The aim of the track is to provide an interface between researchers who are renewing the field of foresight and scenario planning, and young researchers who are preparing doctoral theses in connection with this field in such disciplines as business administration, economics, sociology, and political science.

We propose to offer a location for presentation and discussion of papers which promise to renew theoretical frameworks and introduce new empirical research in the field of foresight and scenario planning. Contributions will provide innovative thinking on areas such as:

- Methodological advances in foresight and scenario planning: e.g. methodological issues around action based scenarios, the management of expert knowledge, storytelling scenarios, wild cards and weak signals, integral futures; and the practical use of tools such as models and online surveys and conferences.
- In-depth analysis of foresight processes connecting various stakeholders, such as public and private organizations, NGOs and governments, and engaging with different types of policymaking, priority-setting and strategizing.
- The development of prospective models of organizational change, in connection with long range public policies and corporate strategies, and embedding methods of examining emerging opportunities and challenges.

The scope of the track includes research which discusses the evolution of foresight and scenario planning practices in public and private organizations confronting long range and/or irreversible changes. These practices may concern various levels of analysis and strategy concerning critical issues such as:

- deregulation, globalization processes,
- converging technologies, new models of innovation and innovation management,
- sustainable development, corporate social responsibility,
- change management, risk management.

The areas of research and strategic issues set out above are not comprehensive, and we welcome empirical or theoretical papers, surveys as well as case studies, which provide innovative perspectives for foresight and scenario planning.