

FUTURE SCANNING RESOURCES



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This document provides resources in connection with the broader topic of future scanning (a term which is also often associated with horizon scanning), along with “innovation.”

[Arlington Institute](#)

Taken from its website “Mission” page, the Arlington Institute is “a 501(c)(3) non-profit research institute that specializes in thinking about global futures and trying to influence rapid, positive change.” On this site’s home page, additional resources can be found, including an e-newsletter (with links to back-issues):

[FuturEdition](#)

An example article in this e-newsletter (provocative) is quoted below from Volume 20, Number 11 - 08/01/17:

[Your Roomba May Be Mapping Your Home, Collecting Data That Could Be Sold – \(New York Times – July 25, 2017\)](#)

Your Roomba may be vacuuming up more than you think. High-end models of Roomba, iRobot’s robotic vacuum, collect data as they clean, identifying the locations of your walls and furniture. This helps them avoid crashing into your couch, but it also creates a map of your home that iRobot is considering selling to Amazon, Apple or Google. Colin Angle, chief executive of iRobot, said that a deal could come in the next two years. In the hands of a company like Amazon, Apple or Google, that data could fuel new “smart” home products. “When we think about ‘what is supposed to happen’ when I enter a room, everything depends on the room at a foundational level knowing what is in it,” an iRobot spokesman said in a written response to questions. “In order to ‘do the right thing’ when you say ‘turn on the lights,’ the room must know what lights it has to turn on. Same thing for music, TV, heat, blinds, the stove, coffee machines, fans, gaming consoles, smart picture frames or robot pets.” But the data, if sold, could also be a windfall for marketers, and the implications are easy to imagine. No armchair in your living room? You might see ads for armchairs next time you open Facebook. Did your Roomba detect signs of a baby? Advertisers might target you accordingly. See also: [Roomba CEO Swears That He Will Never Sell Maps of Users’ Homes, So Help Him God](#). (Editor’s note: Whether Roomba ever sells data or not, please note the potential for your smart equipment to generate saleable data.)

The Millennium Project

Quoting the “About Us” description of The Millennium Project, the organization:

“Connects futurists around the world to improve global foresight. It was founded in 1996 after a three-year feasibility study with the United Nations University, Smithsonian Institution, Futures Group International, and the American Council for the UNU. It is now an independent non-profit global participatory futures research think tank of futurists, scholars, business planners, and policy makers who work for international organizations, governments, corporations, NGOs, and universities.”

Although many of the publications and resources from The Millennium Project require a subscription and/or purchase, these are very well regarded. In some cases the summaries of various projects can be useful enough by themselves, such as:

[Future Work/Technology 2050](#)

[Global Normative Scenario](#)

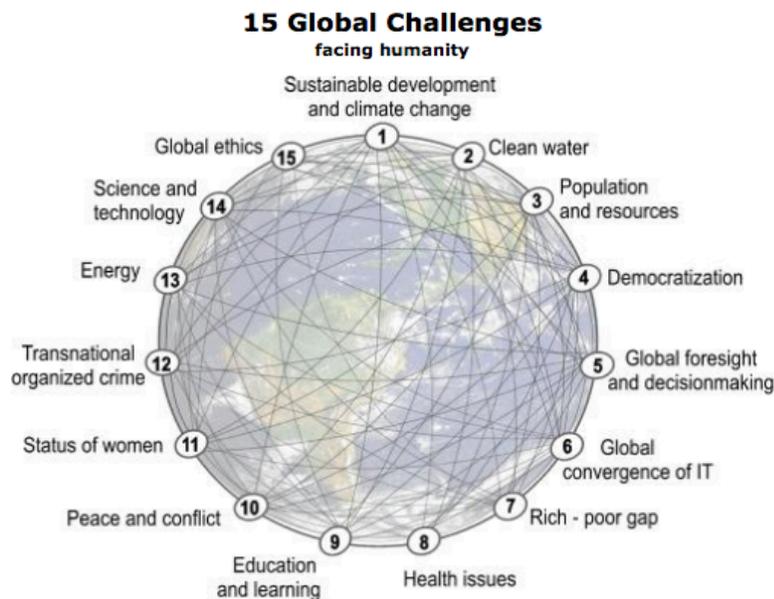
[Millennium 3000 Scenarios](#)

[The Millennium Project: 15 Global Challenges](#)

Global Challenges for Humanity

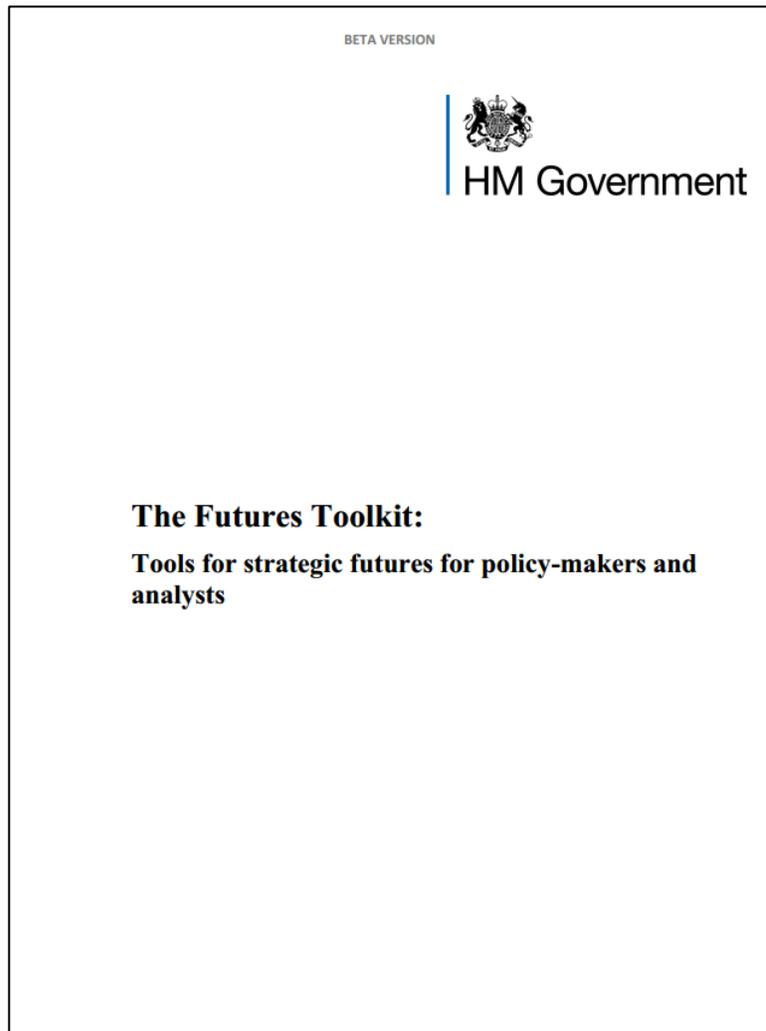
*The 15 Global Challenges updated annually continue to be **the** best introduction by far to the key issues of the early 21st century.*

-- Michael Marien, editor, *Future Survey*



[The Futures Toolkit: Tools for strategic futures for policy-makers and analysts](#)

This resource is primarily directed to government officials and other policy makers. The audience and authors are in the UK. However, several of the tools are very similar or the same as those that would be used in a variety of other circumstances and settings.



[Facing the future: Scanning, synthesizing and sense-making in horizon scanning](#)

In this scholarly article, authors discuss origins and current uses of horizon scanning.

FutureFoundation.org

Future Foundation provides articles and information with a focus on current and technologies as well as those that may be on the horizon (it is a magazine formatted site).

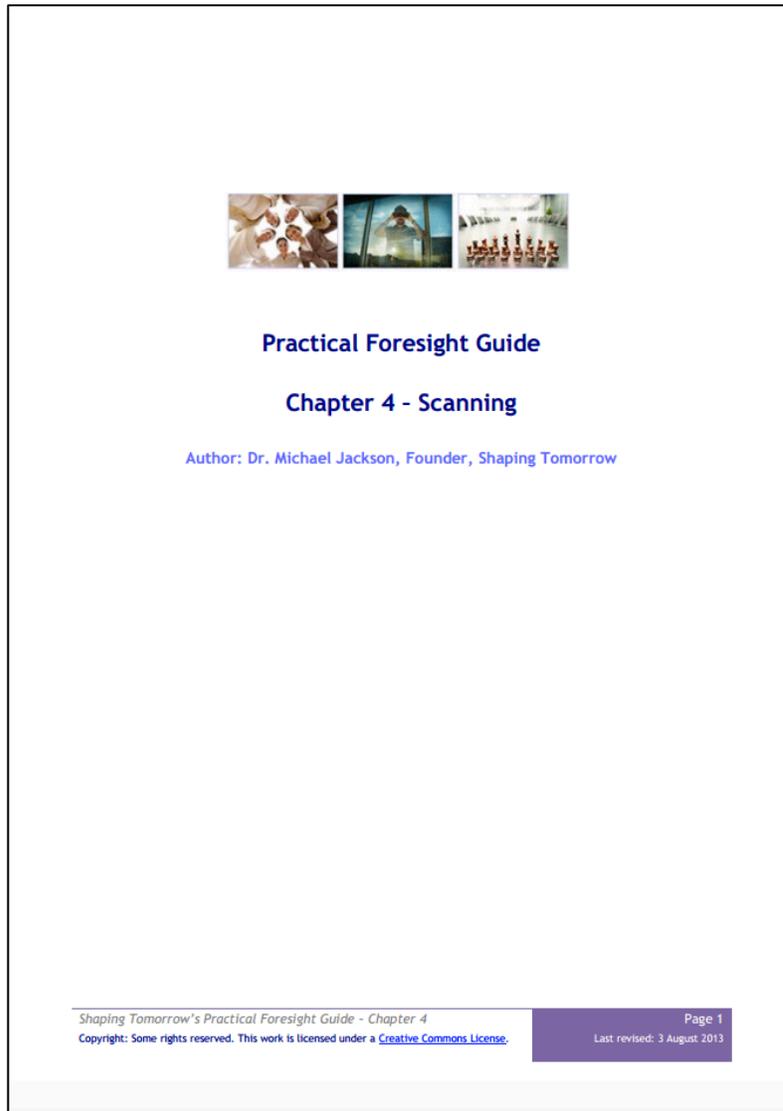
[Global Strategic Trends - Out to 2045, Fifth Edition](#)

Another UK publication, this electronic publication considers issues from the perspective of its Ministry of Defense.



[Shaping Tomorrow's Practical Foresight Guide – Chapter 4](#)

This guide is authored by [Dr. Michael Jackson](#), the founder of Shaping Tomorrow.com. This organization and its website are concerned with “foresight, strategy and change management” in the contexts of risk management and innovation in corporate settings.



(See previous page for link.) This guide is packed full of excellent advice and discussion regarding future scanning (and habits to develop), for instance:

Techniques

There are multiple ways to see beyond today and to generate fresh questions, stories and narrative:

- Bookmark sources
- Become a newsletter junkie
- Experience a service
- Go beyond your immediate interests
- Look for new inventions
- Look outside your industry

Shaping Tomorrow's Practical Foresight Guide - Chapter 4

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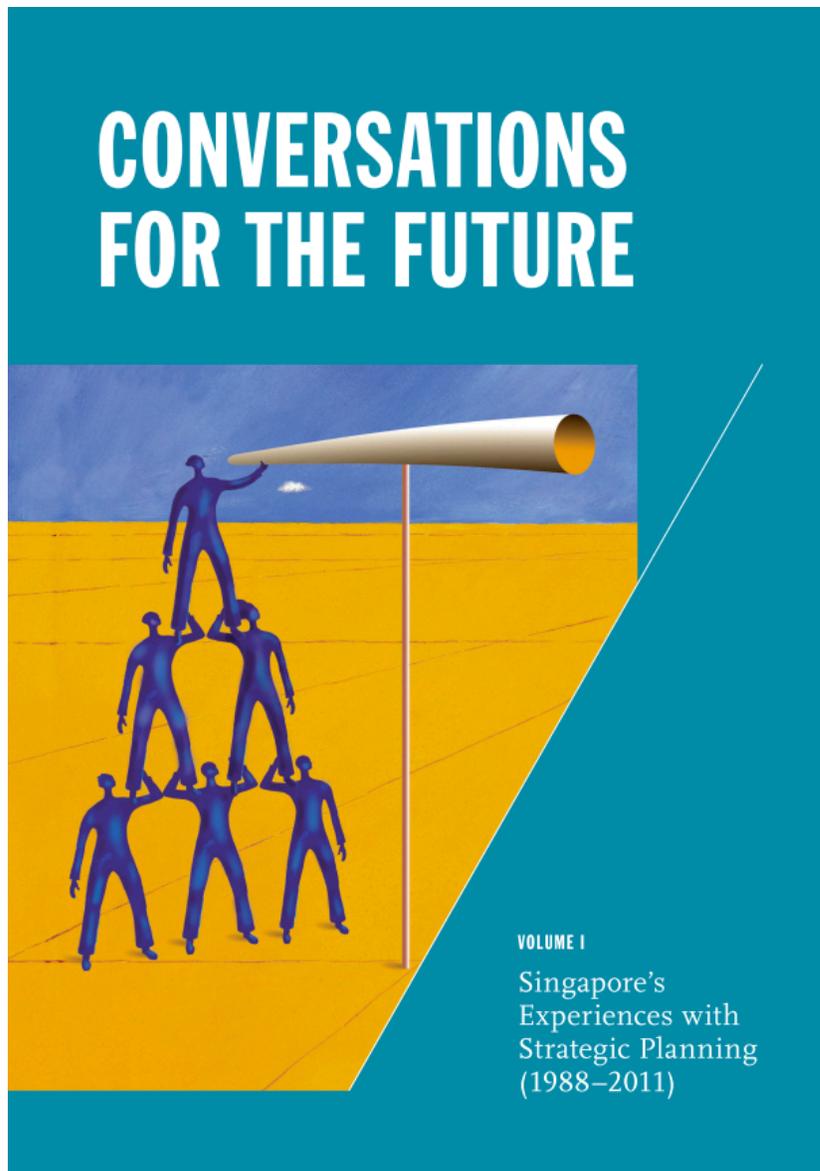
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Last revised: 3 August 2013

- Maintain an idea log
- Network with forward thinkers
- Pick a time frame
- Revisit the past
- Scan the scanners
- Set up a futures panel
- Take a global perspective
- Vary your routine
- Search patents, new books, etc.
- Conduct a bibliographic search

[Conversations for the Future: Singapore's Experiences with Strategic Planning \(1988–2011\), Volume I.](#)

While this electronic book involves scenario planning in the small country of Singapore, the roots of its methodologies are based on practices at Royal Dutch Shell.



InnovationManagement.se

This robust site boasts a library of over 3000 articles on organizational culture, leadership, strategy, and their related topics, which impact and/or drive innovation. The image below was captured from its “Library” page, subtopic on “Leadership”:

The screenshot shows the website's layout for the 'Leadership' subtopic. At the top, the site name 'InnovationManagement.se' is displayed in pink, with a search bar to the right. Below the header is a dark banner with the text 'Is failure the secret ingredient to success? Download the infographic to learn more.' and the 'ideascale' logo. The main content area is titled 'Leadership' and features three article cards:

- How to Foster an Organizational Culture that Encourages Innovation**
June 29, 2017 | By: [Madison Sanders](#) | In: [Creative Leadership](#), [Innovation Psychology](#)
Innovative and forward-thinking companies are successful because they have new, exciting, and useful products or services before others and consumers take notice of companies regularly producing the next big thing. These companies are more effective and they can grow more rapidly because their company culture encourages innovation among their employees. A company of "intrapreneurs" can quickly become a successful and noteworthy company.
- 9 Ways to Convert Employees into Intrapreneurs**
June 21, 2017 | By: [Emma Miller](#) | In: [Creative Leadership](#)
Companies that encourage and reward intrapreneurship have a great advantage when it comes to retaining the best talents – especially important in today's creative climate. Here are a few ways that your company can turn your employees into highly-engaged intrapreneurs.
- Generating Disruptive Ideas for the Hyper-Digital Era**
June 19, 2017 | By: [Laszlo Gyorffy](#) | In: [Strategies](#)
Disruptive ideas don't just happen – they must be championed. In doing so, intrapreneurs must address two fundamental truths when leading big idea innovation: that of value creation and that of persuasive communication. If you want to learn how to scale innovation across your enterprise and create a disciplined approach for creating market-changing ideas, One Hour Innovator is a great place to start.

The right sidebar contains a 'STAY CONNECTED' section with social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, Google+, LinkedIn, Pinterest, RSS, and YouTube. Below this are two newsletter buttons: 'IM Weekly Newsletter' and 'inside'. At the bottom of the sidebar is a blue box with the text 'What makes innovators different? Download the infographic.' and the 'ideascale' logo.

Ted.com's Innovation Topics Area

Ted.com has an extensive area specifically devoted to Innovation.

Entrepreneur.com's Innovation Topics Area

Entrepreneur.com (publisher of Entrepreneur, the magazine) also has an extensive area specifically devoted to Innovation.

InnovationLeader.com

This site is for corporate innovation professionals and requires a membership. But, it does provide insight as to this highly specialized niche, including some downloadable articles and other content, information about conferences, participating companies, and personalities (i.e., SMEs):



Exclusive research reports on innovation topics, including metrics, benchmarking, labs, compensation, and more.



A website continually updated with case studies, articles, and webcasts, all delivered weekly to your inbox.



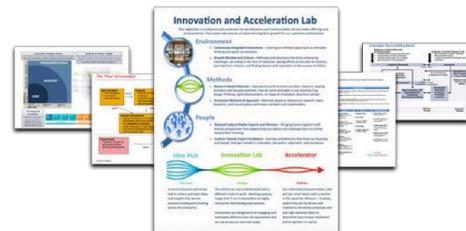
Thought leadership and expert guidance from your peers and the industry's top innovation advisors.



A print magazine with in-depth articles and interviews with innovation executives who are breaking new ground.



Interactive Field Studies, Teach-Ins, and curated, members-only conference calls, as well as exclusive visits to corporate innovation labs.



Extensive and exclusive Resource Center, packed with checklists, innovation frameworks, spreadsheets, dashboards, and more.

[Word Future Society](http://WordFutureSociety.com)

Quoting its "Our Purpose" page:

Founded in 1966, the World Future Society has spent the past five decades building future studies from the ground-up through publications, global summits, and advisory roles to world leaders in business and government. Historical members and authors have included legendary minds such as Buckminster Fuller, Gene Roddenberry, and Margaret Mead.