

## ***Future-based learning***

Innovation is about creating alternative futures and a powerful set of tools exist around scenarios and other projective techniques; some of these have been embedded in powerful methodologies such as Shell's Game changer programme or the Future Agenda consortium. This strand of work will set up an 'IF-Lab' (Imagining the Future-Laboratory) – a place where participants imagine alternative futures and explore within them opportunities and challenges which can form the basis of novel product or service concepts. From these rich pictures tools for 'back-casting' and road-mapping can be used to develop clear pathways to take innovation opportunities forward.

### **1. Methods**

- Learning through simulation, scenario development, road mapping, back casting and other techniques

### **2. Requirements**

- This is a team-based approach using workshop techniques to develop and explore alternative futures and identify strategic innovation responses to emerging challenges

### **3. Potential solution/outcome**

- learners will be exposed to tools and techniques to help them explore alternative future scenarios and work from those towards viable innovation strategies to minimize threats and maximize opportunities
- learners will acquire facility in using a range of futures methodologies
- learners will understand the role futures thinking plays in developing an organization's innovation strategy

### **4. When should you use it?**

- To help embed a capacity for futures thinking across the organization
- To explore specific trends which might have a disruptive impact on the organization and develop appropriate responses.

### **5. Main Sources**

- Savery (2015) Overview of problem-based learning: Definitions and distinctions
- Dolmans et al (2005) Problem-based learning: Future challenges for educational practice and research