

Roadmap for the Trans-COVID Period

An Update to our Foresight Roadmap for COVID Futures

Looking Across the Trans-COVID Future

As the initial shock of COVID-19 begins to wear off, we are all sensing that the real work is now beginning. From emergency mass stay-at-home orders to ad hoc international efforts to provide medical innovations, the initial couple of months were about responding to the very real and rising health threat. Now, the depth and breadth of impacts of COVID-19 and our responses to it are beginning to become clear. With each passing day, more of the assumptions we started the year with are falling away. It is time to start working on mid-term adaptations and long-term innovations.

As the pandemic has matured and its implications become clearer, we have come to recognize that for the Foresight Roadmap to have increasing value for users, it now needs to be more focused, with more resources devoted to mapping the emerging landscape.

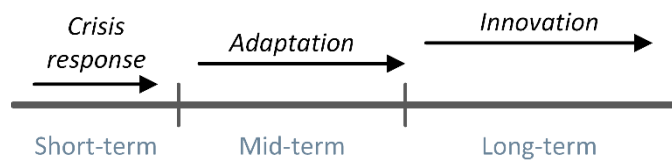


Figure 1: Time Horizons and Planning Orientations

We are, therefore, pleased to offer a subscription to ongoing and more comprehensive assessment of the evolving pandemic and its implications. There will be three editions of the Roadmap to choose from, the better focus on particular sectors: Global Security, US Economy, and US Health. We encourage you to subscribe to our new foresight roadmap service and further details can be found on the next page.

Foresight Roadmap v1.2

This update to the roadmap sees a distinct shift in items, with the initial short-term events beginning to fall off the map and a crowding of the mid- and long-term timeframes. The key uncertainty of Economic Recovery has been pushed out in time, and we – like many – are anticipating a widening array of negative impacts. Of particular importance, we are now awaiting the week of 8 June to see what results from the recent opening up of some US states. That will be two weeks following the opening of these states and if we are going to see serious 2nd waves of infection, that is when we will start to see them.

The emerging issues added in this version include:

- End of College as a Route to Career (and middle class)
- Worst Job Market for Graduates
- Radically Altered Industry Outlooks
- Long-term Changes to Travel Industry
- Mid-Term Disruptions to Food Supply Chains
- China's "Adversarial Capital"
- Birth of the Neo-Sharing Economy
- 2nd and 3rd waves of COVID-19
- More Expedited Science and Testing

Foresight for the Trans-COVID Period

During this period of multiplying uncertainties and accelerating transitions, organizations need tools that can make sense of the continuing disruption and link that evolving insight to flexible plans. VFS has three ways we can immediately begin assisting your organization through this period.

VFS Dynamic Planning Framework. An ideal choice for organizations that need to quickly reformulate their assessments and plans for the near-term, this proprietary framework offers a set of dynamic tools for developing foresight and executing strategy in situations of great uncertainty and rapid change. Modified for the Trans-COVID period, this framework will make it easy to map the rapidly changing landscape, link key uncertainties, scenarios, and decision points, and to align strategies for the short and longer-terms.

Trans-COVID Foresight Roadmap. For organizations looking for new insights on the emerging landscape, the Foresight Roadmap is an excellent option. Subscribe to one of three editions of our Roadmap: Global Security, US Economy, and US Health. Each edition will map the emerging landscape and includes monthly updates to the maps and materials on emerging issues, strategic implications, suggested foresight applications, and links to more resources. Focused Packages are available for organizations needing a more specific and tailored roadmap.

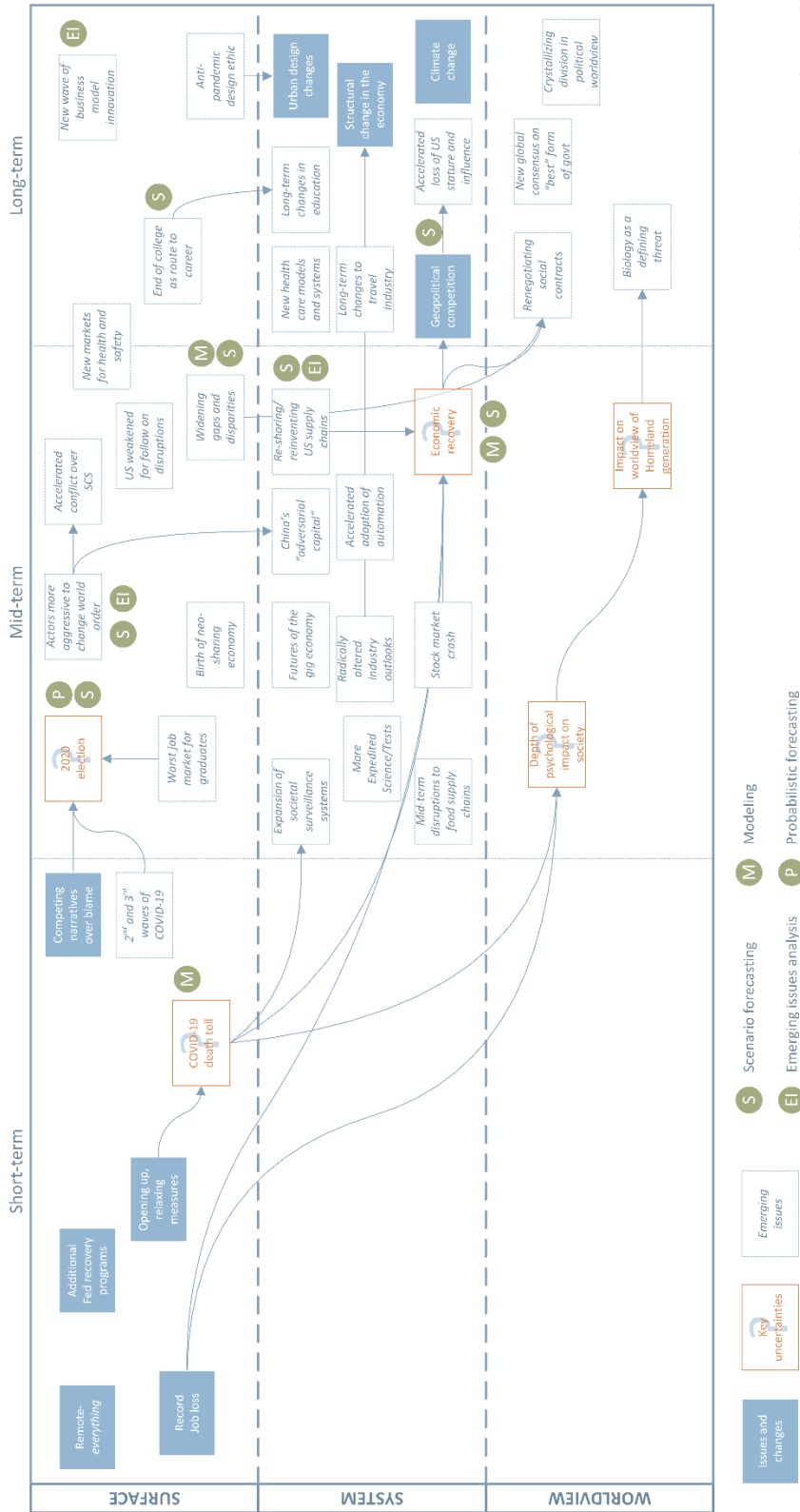
4 Steps to the Future. For those needing a straight-forward and quick-to-deploy tool for developing foresight, the *4 Steps* model is a go-to choice. Designed for those who might have less familiarity with futures or less time for a full-blown project, the *4 Steps* model provides a clear and simple process that you can quickly deploy in-house. VFS can assist your organization with conducting short *4 Steps* projects and with training for your staff. Copies of *4 Steps to the Future* can also be purchased from Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, and other booksellers.

[Contact us today](#) and we can begin mapping out how to quickly – and safely – work with your organization to bring new understanding to the successive disruptions rippling across the world today.

v1.2 5/13/20

FORESIGHT ROADMAP (US-FOCUSED)

What is missing from this map? What future issues, opportunities, and threats may confront your organization or community?



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Figure 2: v1.2 of the Trans-COVID Foresight Roadmap

Key to the Foresight Roadmap

Surface: issues and changes in daily experience and practices; change tends to happen often, seemingly erratic, and *tends* to have little deep immediate impact on society

System: changes at the level of infrastructure, institutions, and law; changes take longer, and take much more energy to make

Worldview: change in values, outlook, and shared stories about the world; change *tends* to unfold over long periods of time

Short-term: for this particular roadmap, short-term is the next 6 months

Mid-term: for this roadmap, mid-term is 6 – 18 months

Long-term: 18+ months

Issues and changes: recent changes that have happened or more enduring issues of importance; a general item (shape) used in the roadmap

Key uncertainties: important uncertainties that represent pivot points for the future

Emerging issues: possible threats and opportunities in the future; typically, things like future technologies, public policy issues, or new concepts and philosophies

Scenario forecasting: any one of a number of qualitative methods for forecasting multiple possible futures; selecting the right scenario method for a given project is key to the project success

Emerging issues analysis: conducting environmental scanning and identifying possible future technologies, policy issues, and concepts that might play a big role in shaping the future

Modeling: any of a number of methods for quantifying relationships between key variables in order to forecast future outcomes

Probabilistic forecasting: developing probabilities for a range of possible, discrete outcomes

Vision Foresight Strategy LLC

Vision Foresight Strategy is a foresight and strategic analysis firm headquartered in Honolulu, Hawai'i. We are a global network of trained foresight professionals that works with organizational leaders to navigate the uncertainty and complexity they face in the world today. Our services include original futures research and analysis, facilitated workshops, and foresight training.

If you would like assistance with building out a **Foresight Roadmap** for your organization, then please contact us and we will be happy to work with you.

We can also assist with doing a range of rapid forecasts, horizon scanning and emerging issues analysis, and scenario forecasting.

Another excellent resource is the book, *4 Steps the Future: A Quick and Clean Guide to Creating Foresight*. Written by Dr. Richard Lum, it is an easy-to-read guide to essential foresight work. It is available to order from Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, and other book sellers.

Find out more at www.visionforesightstrategy.com

