Foresight4Food
International Collaborative Initiative

FORESIGHT4FOOD

Enhancing foresight for global food systems change

> We need a radical transformation in how our food systems function: business-as-usual is no longer an option

THE NEED FOR FOOD SYSTEMS FORESIGHT

How food systems change over the coming decades will have profound global implications for our health, economic and social wellbeing and the environment. We are on an unhealthy, unsustainable and inequitable path compounded by the risks and uncertainties of climate change. To help drive change we need a deeper understanding of how the future might unfold and more insight about the options for taking action – before crises hit.

Foresight is a key tool that governments, private sector, and civil society can jointly use to better understand future risks and opportunities in food systems, explore possible futures and to adapt. It involves anticipating trends and changes in food systems, exploring solutions and innovations, and creating foresight-backed scenarios and options to guide action.

FORESIGHT4FOOD

- Analysis and synthesis of the drivers, trends and future scenarios for food systems

- Enhanced methods and tools for foresight and scenario analysis

- Stakeholder dialogue, informed by science, about the future of food systems

- Improved decision making for resilient, sustainable and equitable food systems
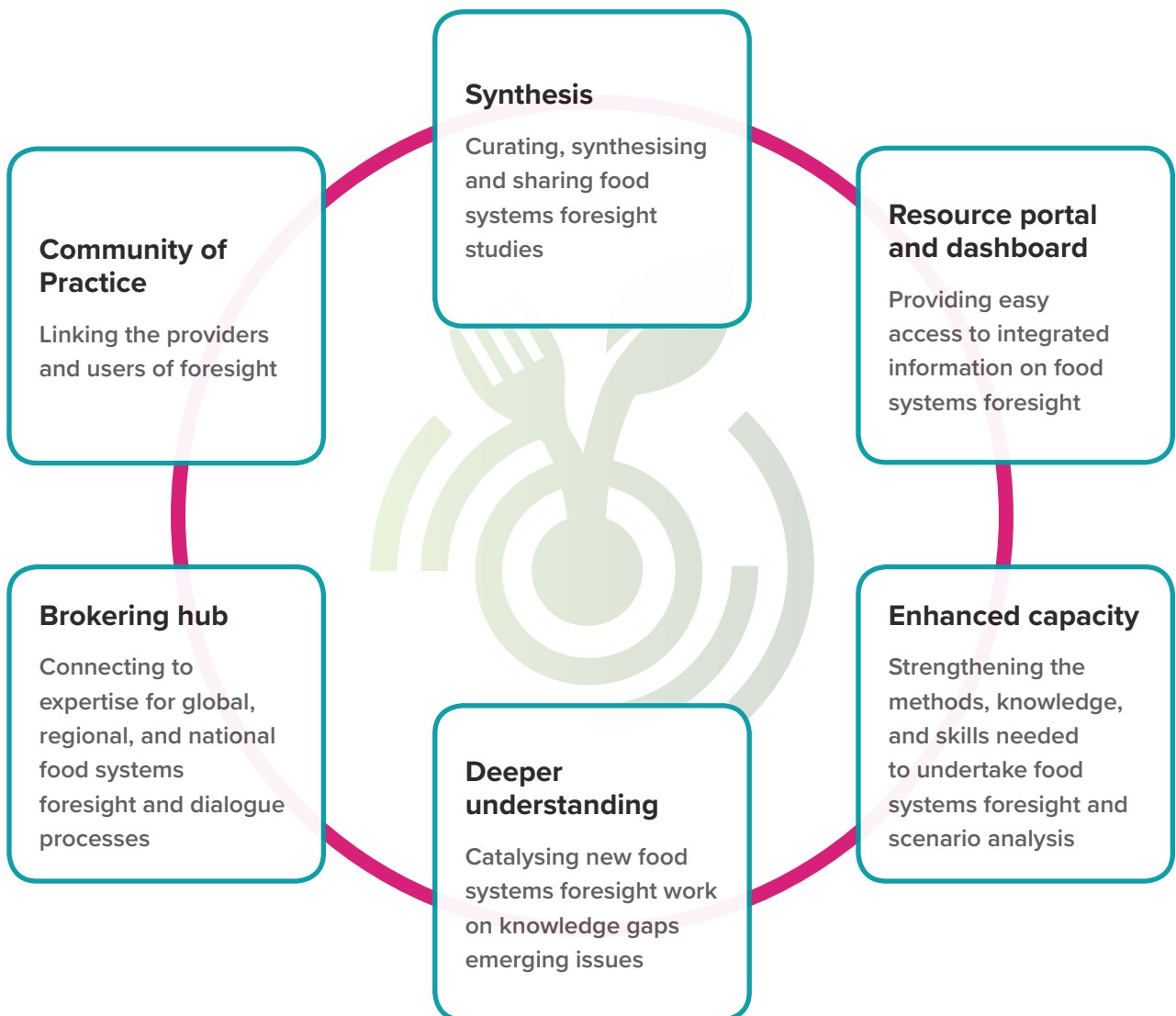
Foresight4Food is a collaborative global initiative of science institutions, international agencies, platforms and coalitions, and development organisations working to transform food systems. They all recognise the need to strengthen local, national and global capabilities for food systems foresight and scenario analysis and the benefits of working together to do so.

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Using scenarios of change to drive societal engagement and adaptive decision-making

FORESIGHT4FOOD FOCUS

Synthesis

Curating, synthesising and sharing food systems foresight studies

Resource portal and dashboard

Providing easy access to integrated information on food systems foresight

Community of Practice

Linking the providers and users of foresight

Enhanced capacity

Strengthening the methods, knowledge, and skills needed to undertake food systems foresight and scenario analysis

Brokering hub

Connecting to expertise for global, regional, and national food systems foresight and dialogue processes

Deeper understanding

Catalysing new food systems foresight work on knowledge gaps emerging issues

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ABOUT US

The Foresight4Food Initiative was encouraged by key science institutions, international agencies, leading research institutes, food systems platforms and development organisations who participated in scoping meetings in Oxford in 2017 and in Montpellier in 2018.

The Initiative is guided by a Steering Committee co-chaired by Dr Patrick Caron and Professor Tim Benton. A secretariat is hosted by the Food Systems Group at the Environmental Change Institute, University of Oxford and led by Dr Jim Woodhill and Dr Monika Zurek, with coordination and research support by Dr Saher Hasnain.

Foresight4Food has been supported through funding and collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the CGIAR Policies, Institutions and Markets Programme, the International Food Policy Research Institute, the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), The Global Forum for Agricultural Research (GFAR), the French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (CIRAD) / University of Montpellier, the University of Oxford and the Open Society Foundations

Get in touch

info@foresight4food.net

Foresight4Food Secretariat | Environmental Change Institute | Oxford University Centre for the Environment | South Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3QY

www.foresight4food.net

Environmental *Change* Institute

FOOD SYSTEMS GROUP

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UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

FORESIGHT4FOOD

- Integrating systems thinking into the challenge of transforming how we produce, distribute and consume food

- Linking scientific research and systems modelling with stakeholder dialogue and policy to explore future scenarios

- Assisting stakeholders to work with the complexity of food systems and the uncertainty of the future

- An open and collaborative platform for the benefit of all actors working on food systems

- Supporting, complementing and not duplicating the work of existing institutions and platforms

- Coordinating efforts to provide foresight analysis and services that serve multiple purposes and groups