NEXT 100 SYMPOSIUM

EXPERT April - Sep
PANELS 2022

In the lead up to the Symposium (September 21-23 2022), GARI and its partners will convene **3 interdisciplinary Expert Panels**, starting with the **Programme Expert Panel** (April 2021) with experts on each of the conference programme strands (see below). This will be followed by the **Technology Panel** (June 2021) which will discuss how the ideas from the first panel might be operationalized. The final **Joint Expert Panel** (September 2021) will discuss how technology and foresight analysis could ideally be leveraged to enhance capabilities and opportunities in their area of focus. Each Expert Panel will then produce a short report based on a set of guiding questions (see below) that will be circulated to speakers and participants as well as targeted policymakers, industry stakeholders, academics and civil society partners prior to the N100 symposium.
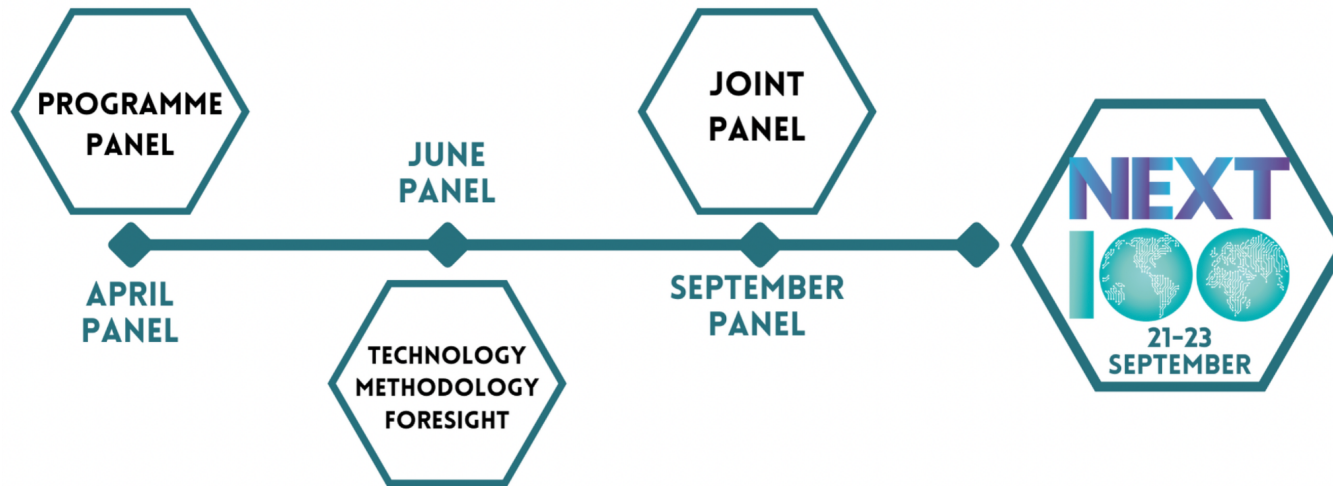
PROGRAMME STRANDS

1	2	3	4	5
TAMING VOLATILITY	**DIGITALLY CHALLENGED**	**WORLD UNCHAINED**	**KEEPING THE LIGHTS ON**	**NEW POLARITY**
➔ Global Inflation ➔ Food/Energy Prices ➔ Scarcity & its Social, Political & Geopolitical Impact	➔ Great Digital Divide ➔ Digital Gap ➔ Digital Multilateralism ➔ Digital Governance	➔ Global Value Chains ➔ Global Supply Chains ➔ Global De-coupling or Deglobalization	➔ Energy ➔ Resources ➔ Energy Transition ➔ Rare Earth Materials	➔ Geopolitics in the 21st Century ➔ Space, Cyber, AI & Defense ➔ The Arctic ➔ Warfare & Weapons

OUTPUTS

1. Expert Panel reports
2. Podcasts featuring experts
3. Symposium report: 2022 Questions of the Future - what do we need to know and don't?

BALSILLIE SCHOOL
OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

GLOBAL ARENA RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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TIMELINE

CONCEPT

The **1st Programme Expert Panel** focusing on the 5 Symposium strands (see above), will consist of specialists from different social science disciplines who will come together to answer a series of guiding questions about trends in their area of focus. They will also all be asked to supply answers to the question: "What do you need to know about the future and don't?"

The **2nd Technology Expert Panel** will consist of experts from the areas of technology: data, foresight, general methodology, Artificial Intelligence, Natural Language Processing, robotics and informatics. The second Panel's directive will be to process the results and deliberations of the first Panel and assess the possibilities of resolving the issues that came out of it as well as determine the kinds of opportunities technology offers to the strands discussed.

Following the meetings of both Expert Panels, there will be a **joint panel** and discussion with both Panels together before the Symposium in September.

The outcomes of all the meetings will inform the programme of the Next 100 Symposium, the main questions to be discussed under each strand and most importantly, will establish the foundation on which discussions can move forward. If successful, much of the work and arguments will already have been presented and discussed prior to the symposium, which will set the stage for robust discussions at the event itself.

First Expert Panel Questions & Agenda:

1. What is the most likely development for the next 30 years in your particular area?
    a. What were the key developments in your area in the past that have shaped the strand areas?
    b. What are the underlying assumptions for your view?

2. Where would you personally like your area to be in 30 years from now? How to get there? What are the obstacles? What will happen if we do not succeed? Is there a plan B?
    a. What are the first practical and realistic steps towards this goal?

3. What are the most authoritative sources/papers/networks that help shape your (expert's) opinion?

4. What do you (your sector) need to know about the future and don't?

5. If you could come up with a wish list to leverage big data and AI to inform trends analysis in area "x", what would you wish for? What would you want to know? What patterns would you like big data and AI to reveal?

6. How confident would you be in the results of big data/AI trends forecasting in your issue area?

7. What qualitative or subject matter expertise is required to make sense of quantitative trends forecasting? (For example, how much knowledge of value networks is needed in order to understand supply chain issues?)

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Second Expert Panel Questions & Agenda:

How can my expertise help reach the overall goals/generally help in understanding the outcomes from the first panel (where it cannot help)?

1. Reflect results from first panel
2. What should additionally be there
3. Reflect on First Panel's answer to the question: "What do you want to know about the future but don't?"

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Joint Expert Panel: Results and outputs from both previous panels will determine the agenda and discussion points of the Joint Panel.