Introduction

Industrial strategy aims to combine short term opportunities with longer term transformation. This strategic level of thinking calls for the Foresight approach, as used around the world in many sectors. Generally, this approach aims to connect between shorter- and longer-term horizons: between different parts of the value chain, and between technology innovations and social change.

This session aims to introduce the foresight approach for industrial strategy and demonstrate some key methods and tools.

We will focus on a live case study now in progress – the project ‘Exploratory Strategic Foresight for Circular Economy in Ukraine’. This will be a good example for interactive discussion and concept mapping, which is at the centre of the foresight approach.

Sources:

Ravetz, J, (2020), Deeper City: collective intelligence and the pathways from smart to wise. NY, Routledge: https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315765860 (see extract on ‘Circulonomics’)


Circular Economy case study

The Circular Economy (‘CE’) is a transformation in progress in many countries around the world. For Ukraine there are many potential benefits –

- Increase income for business and the wider economy
- Reduce dependence on external resources
- Modernize the economy and increase value-added
- Enhance investment, trade flows, incomes and skills
- Strengthen cooperation with the EU and internationally
- Minimize waste and pollution

Such transformation can be far-reaching, with many sectors of business and society, many material streams, and many kinds of location. It is also very practical and success may depend on the basic details in sectors such as construction, agriculture/food, automotive or electronics. To make sense
of this, to look ahead at the challenges, to mobilize the visions and opportunities, and turn these into practical actions – this is the role of foresight and strategic thinking.

This current project – the ‘Exploratory Strategic Foresight for Circular Economy in Ukraine’ is managed by UNIDO, under the European Union-funded EU4Environment programme, and with sponsorship from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). For more details about EU4Environment, please visit: www.eu4environment.org and recpc.org

Session 1: introduction to foresight & industrial strategy
09:30 – 11:00
• Introductions – participants & CE-Ukraine project
• Intro to FS approach & methods (OS)
• FS application to economic development & industrial strategy (JR)
• Discussion
• Workshop method & program: with CE Ukraine as case study

Questions for Discussion - 1
- What is the experience of using FS for industrial strategy or similar in Ukraine?
- How much is the current conflict in our scope?
- What are top 5 opportunities in using FS for industry and CE?
- What are top 5 challenges / barriers, in using FS for industry and CE?

Session 2: scoping & scanning for the circular economy
11:30 – 12:30
• Overview of CE ‘Circul-onomics’ (JR)
• FS methods - scoping & scanning (OS)
• CE practical – scoping & scanning trends, drivers, wild cards
• Discussion

Questions for Discussion – 2
- What are the top 5 trends & drivers of change, likely to affect industrial strategy / CE in Ukraine (2030 / 2040)?
- Which top 5 ‘wild cards’ (high impact / low probability events) could be most crucial for industrial strategy / CE?
- Who are the key stakeholders shaping changes in these areas – internal and external?
- Who has the legitimacy/power/resources to take a FS and CE-type initiative?

Session 3: future scenarios, visions, opportunities
13:30 – 15:00
• FS methods – future scenarios & visions (OS)
• FS applications to CE - future scenarios & visions (JR)
• CE practical – future scenarios & visions
• Discussion

**Questions for Discussion - 3**

- What are the top 3-5 uncertainties in industrial development / CE?
- What alternative scenarios are most relevant & useful?
- How will the news headlines from 2030 / 2040 look in each of these?
- What are top 3 ‘opportunities / visions’ in each scenario (both positive & negative)

**Session 4: strategy & road-mapping**
15:30 – 17:00

• FS methods – strategy development & road-mapping (OS)
• FS applications to CE - strategy development & road-mapping (JR)
• CE practical – road-mapping
• Discussion & review of implications for industrial strategy development

**Questions for Discussion – 4**

- What are the top priorities for strategic action, given the uncertainty of the future?
- How do these compare for importance, feasibility, and cost-effectiveness?
- Can we draw a ‘road-map’ with strategies and actions: for the short term (1 year): medium (3-5 years?): and long term (5-20 years)?
- Who would be most involved, which resources are needed & how much?

**Note:**

These are key CE value chains, proposed by RECP, for the online training program

1. buildings [KPVC “construction and buildings”]
2. food [KPVC “food, water and nutrients”]
3. clothes [KPVC “textiles”];
4. plastic packaging [KPVCs “plastic” and “packaging”]
5. small electronic products (computers, mobile phones, ...) [KPVC “electronics and ICT
6. white goods
7. cars [KPVC “batteries and vehicles”]