

FUTURE PROOF YOUR HACK: ALTERNATIVE SCENARIOS FOR FOOD

However you participate in the Future of Food Technology Hackathon, you're already part of a movement making the future. The food system of the next decade needs your ideas and prototypes. When imagining the future, we often assume change will continue in the same direction as the recent past. But history tells us there are other ways that change can occur. Considering four alternative future scenarios—**growth, constraint, collapse, and transformation**—will help you prepare for a decade of volatility and change. The real future will likely contain elements of all four scenarios, and it starts with what you imagine, invent, make, and hack today.

LET'S GET STARTED...

THINK:

Whether you already have an idea for your hack or you need inspiration, this tool will help you think systematically about the future of food.

IMMERSE:

Start by reading about the four alternative scenarios below. Then, flip over to immerse yourself in a few possible challenges presented by the coming decade of uncertainty.

MAKE:

Now is your chance to make the future! Combine elements from all four scenarios and design your hack to thrive in any future. How does your idea make the food system more resilient, efficient and inclusive?

TELL US AT #FOODHACKATHON!



GROWTH | A future in which current trends and conditions, both good and bad, continue to grow as they have in the past.



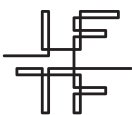
CONSTRAINT | A future in which scarce resources force societies to contend with limitations.



COLLAPSE | A future in which systems are strained beyond the breaking point, causing system collapse and social disarray.



TRANSFORMATION | A future in which fundamental change in technology and values signals a break from the past.



INSTITUTE FOR THE FUTURE

IFFT's Global Food Outlook program works with organizations to use foresight to think through disruptions and dilemmas in food and agriculture. By thinking systematically about these future possibilities, we help our clients develop more resilient strategies for a decade of volatility and change. The Alternative Futures framework was developed by Jim Dator at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Future of Food  echnology
Hackathon + Forum | FutureFoodHack.com

We created this guide to help you make a resilient hack for the future of food. For more information on our research, visit www.iff.org/foodfutures.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR HACK! @IFFT #FOODHACKATHON

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IN A FUTURE OF GROWTH



- Agricultural science achieves great leaps in intensifying production of staple foods, but ecosystems are under great strain.
- The cost of diet-related illness is a growing driver of countertrends toward reducing consumption, while global flows of diet fads and fusion-flavors sweep across continents with almost no lag time.

IN A FUTURE OF CONSTRAINT



- Zoonotic disease undermines nearly all faith in the global meat supply, putting increased demand on other sources of protein.
- Advances in urban food production and distribution bring city dwellers closer to their food, but systems of trust do not yet exist.

IN A FUTURE OF COLLAPSE



- Volatile weather batters all major cereal crops in relatively close succession, and pestilence and pollinator collapses decimate whole categories of food.
- Food security efforts are stepped-up worldwide, but greed and hoarding by individuals and communities make food access more unequal than ever.

IN A FUTURE OF TRANSFORMATION



- New technical capacities and demand for variety prompt a shift away from packaged blockbuster foods toward on-demand and custom options.
- Taste for synthetically produced foods increases as the open source movement expands across the food system, disrupting corporate models.

