



Umar Sheraz
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Umar Sheraz is an Innovation Policy Analyst and Futurist, based in Pakistan. A social change researcher, cross-disciplinary collaborator and foresight practitioner, he brings academic and professional experience in the arena of innovation and futures thinking. Umar is the founding blog editor of the Journal of Futures Studies. He has also applied, taught, and researched Strategic Foresight and Scenario Planning for 12 years. He has designed and led dozens of International Foresight and Scenario Planning workshops in Pakistan, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Iran and Nepal to facilitate making of real-world strategic decisions by corporations, government agencies and universities. His original insights relevant to futures thinking have been published in academic journals, practitioner-focused blogs and newspapers.

As a practitioner, he has been involved in training, consultancy and report-writing roles with international organizations like the Rockefeller Foundation, International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications (INASP), Think Tank Initiative Program, Institute of Alternative Futures, Bangladesh Enterprise Institute, Yazd University, Mount Allison University to name a few. In Pakistan he has worked with COMSATS, SAARC Human Resource Centre, ARK Consulting, Pakistan Air Force, Madrassa Foundation, Hans Siedel Foundation, GIZ Health Sector Support Program, LEAD Pakistan and a host of other NGOs, corporate entities and universities. The emphasis has been on opening up the future space to explore alternative futures and strategies to achieve a preferable future. As a trainer he has explored cross-cutting themes like change management, leadership, visioning, critical thinking, loss prevention, to name a few. His lectures and workshops are about having fun, gaming and re-framing participant energy.

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