



# FORESIGHT METHODS FOR SUSTAINABILITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION

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# SLOVENIA



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# *Academic Tradition and New Challenges*

Founded in 2003, UP is the third public Slovene University.

Its name “Primorska” is the name of the region where it is located (the Littoral region of Slovenia).

The UP has committed itself to follow trends within the formation of the European University and Research Area and to become a modern university open to international cooperation.



# Members of University of Primorska



Faculty of Humanities  
Faculty of Management  
Faculty of Mathematics, Natural  
Sciences and Information Technologies  
Faculty of Education  
Institute Andrej Marušič

Faculty of Tourism Studies - Turistica

Faculty of Health Sciences

# University in numbers



**6000+**  
**students**



**25% international  
students**  
**41%  
on STEM  
programmes**



**94+**  
**study  
programmes**



**150+**  
**visiting  
professors and  
researchers  
per year**



**470+**  
**academics and  
researchers**  
**210+ staff**

# Sustainability in Higher Education



Higher education institutions can make a great contribution to building general sustainability awareness, develop practical insights, and motivating young people to behave responsibly.

HEIs can contribute to the implementation of the SDGs through education, research, and university operations/policy.





# EDUCATION

The fourth SDG refers to: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

- ✓ This goal explicitly call for actions by HEIs.
- ✓ This goal is closely related to all other SDGs and plays an important role in their implementation.
- ✓ Education represents an essential strategy in the pursuit of the SDGs.

# RESEARCH

Research is the basis for understanding all challenges that we are facing today.

- ✓ University has one of the most important roles in translating global SDGs in national and local contexts, identifying gaps, developing solutions and measuring the progress.
- ✓ Research and innovation across social sciences is important for the successful implementation of most of the SDGs.

# UNIVERSITY POLICY

We can successfully achieve SDGs with engaging all the sectors.

- ✓ Universities have the unique position in the society for building capacity and supporting the implementation of SDGs.
- ✓ They have significant impacts on the social, cultural, and environmental wellbeing.

# FORESIGHT METHODS

Foresight methods are crucial for predicting the future and making plans in a wide range of industries.

Popper (2008) defined 33 foresight methods which are divided into three groups: **qualitative, quantitative and semi-quantitative.**

# QUALITATIVE FORESIGHT METHODS

Qualitative foresight approaches collect and analyse expert opinions, subjective data, and insights.

Backcasting, Brainstorming, Citizens Panels, Conferences/Workshops, Essays/Scenario Writing, Expert Panels, Genius Forecasting, Interviews, Literature Review, Morphological Analysis, Relevance Trees/ Logic Charts, Role Play/Acting, Scanning, Scenarios, Science Fictioning, Simulation Gaming, Surveys, Swot, Wild Cards & Weak Signals.

# QUANTITATIVE FORESIGHT METHODS

Quantitative foresight methods involve the use of numerical data, statistical analysis, modeling, and simulations.

- ✓ Benchmarking,
- ✓ Bibliometrics,
- ✓ Indicators/Time Series Analysis,
- ✓ Modelling,
- ✓ Patent Analysis,
- ✓ Trend Extrapolation/ Impact Analysis.

# SEMIQUANTITATIVE FORESIGHT METHODS

Semiquantitative foresight methods combine qualitative and quantitative elements.

- ✓ Cross-impact/ Structural Analysis,
- ✓ Delphi,
- ✓ Key/Critical technologies,
- ✓ Multi-criteria analysis,
- ✓ Polling/Voting,
- ✓ Quantitative scenarios/SMIC,
- ✓ Roadmapping,
- ✓ Stakeholder Analysis/ MACTOR.

# FORESIGHT METHODS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

**Anticipating and Managing Future Risks:** Foresight methods help identify emerging trends, challenges, and risks that may impact sustainability.



# FORESIGHT METHODS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

**Strategic Planning for Sustainable Futures:**  
Foresight methods support strategic planning processes aimed at achieving long-term sustainability goals.

# FORESIGHT METHODS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

**Informing Policy Development:** Policymakers can make well-informed choices that support sustainable practises and address societal concerns by taking into account various situations and potential effects.

# FORESIGHT METHODS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

**Encouraging Innovation and Adaptation:** Methods of foresight encourage innovation by spotting new possibilities and technology that can advance sustainability.

# FORESIGHT METHODS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

**Engaging Stakeholders and Collaboration:**  
Cooperative strategy encourages discussion, information sharing, and group action towards sustainability, resulting in more inclusive and practical solutions.

# FORESIGHT METHODS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

**Education and Capacity Building:** The employment of foresight techniques in educational contexts can encourage sustainability literacy and equip students to serve as proactive changemakers.

# FORESIGHT METHODS IN EDUCATION

**Anticipating future needs:** Higher education institutions can spot new trends and foresee the demands of the market, the government, and society at large by using foresight techniques.

# FORESIGHT METHODS IN EDUCATION

**Strategic planning:** Scenario planning, trend analysis, and environmental scanning are tools that institutions can use to create long-term plans that take advantage of new opportunities and solve future problems.

# FORESIGHT METHODS IN EDUCATION

**Innovation and curriculum development:** Methods of foresight enable creative thinking and curriculum development that is in line with future demands.



# FORESIGHT METHODS IN EDUCATION

**Lifelong learning and adaptability:** Using foresight techniques, it is possible to include chances for continuous learning in educational programs by detecting developing abilities and competencies.

# FORESIGHT METHODS IN EDUCATION

**Collaboration and partnerships:** Collaboration and collaborations between higher education institutions, businesses, research organizations, and other stakeholders are encouraged by foresight methodologies.



**Thank you for your attention!**

Prof. dr. Ajda Fošner

