

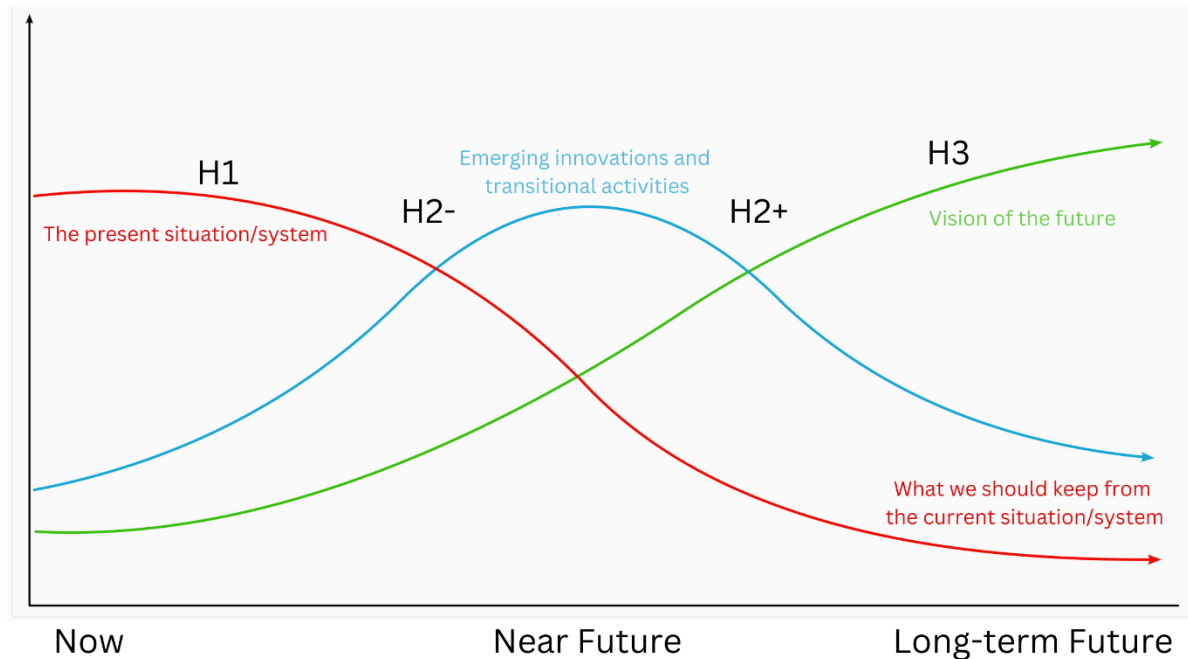
Climate Adaptation

Ymaddasu i Newid
Hinsawdd



Three Horizons Framework

The Three Horizons Framework, developed by Bill Sharpe, is a powerful tool for guiding conversations about the present and the future. It helps translate visions into meaningful, tangible action that is achievable. This approach helps identify the current situation, envision the desired future and understand the pathways that will help us transition from where we are now, to where we want to be.



Horizon 1

The red line shows horizon 1 (H1) and represents the present situation or system (for example, infrastructure, technology, policies and the way we respond to climate impacts today). These current systems may be ineffective, or effective now but they may struggle to keep up with the growing challenges of climate change.

Horizon 2

The blue line shows horizon 2 which can be split into two parts H2- and H2+. These are innovations or pathways contributing to the transition between the present (H1) and the desired future (H3).

H2-: These are improvements to existing practices. While they are helpful, they might not be enough to tackle climate change challenges. They mainly extend the life of current practices (H1), which could limit progress towards the envisioned future (H3).

H2+: These are innovative ideas and experimental approaches. They are more likely to pave the way for, and move us closer to H3.

In short, H2- helps us manage the present, while H2+ pushes us towards future goals.

Horizon 3

The green line shows horizon 3 (H3), which represents the long-term vision of the future. It can include innovative solutions and strategies that address current and future climate challenges. While some of these ideas might seem unrealistic now, they can become practical and widely accepted as our systems and perspectives evolve.

This video [here](#) is a great visual resource showing how the framework works.

How to use this framework

You can use this framework on your own or in a group visioning session. To map your ideas:

1. Draw a large-scale line graph on a wall or a piece of paper.
2. Use sticky notes to place ideas in the appropriate sections of the graph: Horizon 1 (current), Horizon 2 (transitional), and Horizon 3 (long-term future).

Alternatively, you can use online tools like Miro to create and organize your map digitally.

Identify H1

- What is the current situation or system?
- What are the signs that the current system is failing in terms of climate adaptation?
- What is keeping us working within this system?
- Is there anything valuable about this system that we want to keep and carry forward?

Identify H3

- What visions of the future do you have?
- What signs of that future already exist?
- How could these existing elements be scaled? What would be needed to do this?
- How can we collaborate with others to achieve this vision?

Identify H2

- H2+ What innovations are helping us move towards our envisioned future?
- H2- What innovations are improving the current system, but ultimately keeping us within that system? (Instead of letting us transition to H3).