

# The Declaration on Future Generations: from principles to reality

The Declaration on Future Generations (DFG) is a milestone in global governance. It signals widespread recognition that short-term crisis management is insufficient for today's challenges, and it invites governments and multilateral organisations to instead prioritise long-term thinking in policy, planning, and action to secure better outcomes for current and future generations.

This echoes the School of International Futures' (SOIF) position since its founding in 2012. We have supported leaders, organisations and communities worldwide to transform the present by employing structured thinking about the future, emphasising participation throughout and weaving global networks of impact to drive systemic change.

Our dedicated Summit of the Future (SOTF) Programme harnesses those 12 years of experience to ensure that we do not miss this opportunity to update our institutions for the 21st Century. We are working with visionary public officials, leaders and practitioners to support the embedding of long-term governance approaches that are equitable, sustainable and fair at the national and international level.

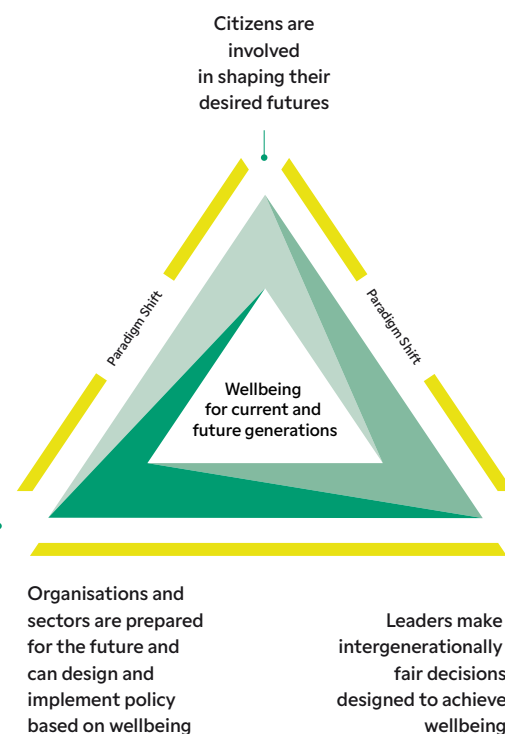
## Our SOTF Programme is focused on translating the DFG's ambitious principles into reality:

- Giving decision makers the guidance and tools they need to implement the DFG effectively.
- Supporting efforts to build national movements that represent the interests of future generations
- Working with actors across industries to champion this agenda, helping them develop the necessary technical skills and understanding to integrate it into their work.
- Continuing to inspire action by foregrounding next generation voices, amplifying success stories, and convening international networks for sharing and collaboration.

At the core of this work is the *Foresight Governance Prism*. The Prism captures the three fundamental pillars that need to be in place for effective long-term governance. Although the specifics of how they are designed and delivered will vary from country to country, all three are significant everywhere.

### The Components of a wellbeing focused and intergenerationally fair system

Systems show signs of long term change which leads to paradigm shift on a larger scale.



The Prism also underpins *The Handbook for Long Term Governance*. A cornerstone of our SOTF programme, the Handbook is informed by conversations with early adopters of long-term governance approaches from over 70 countries. It is a practical tool intended for use by governments, civil society and multilateral institutions to deliver on the promise of the DFG and realise a better future for all.

In the run-up to the Summit, we have contributed, as part of the wider community, to galvanise support for and progressed conversation around the future generations agenda through:

### Convening networks of influence

- Creating two **networks of influential actors** in the futures domain, each with their own respective regional and local working groups:
  - **Pledge Community**: A global network of over 225 advocates for foresight and wellbeing pushing for a strong and ambitious DFG.
  - **Futures Pioneers Community**: An informal group of over 135 civil servants and politicians from 50 countries and international organisations, sharing their knowledge and ambitions around futures work.

### Working at the national level

- Collaborating with government officials, parliamentarians, and civil society in countries such as Kenya, Cameroon, Finland, Ireland, Spain, Portugal, the US, and New Zealand, to **build interest, understanding and capability** in this area.

### Progressing the conversation internationally

- Acting to **strengthen the Declaration on Future Generations (DFG)** by:
  - Disseminating knowledge and research in multilateral platforms like G20 or OECD.
  - Leading and supporting the organisation of high-level meetings like the Future Generations Forum hosted by the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales, and a States' Roundtable at the UN HLPF, with participation of the DFG Co-Chairs (Jamaica and the Netherlands).

- Elaborating the **Wales Protocol on Future Generations**, which proposes concrete actions for a variety of stakeholders to support DFG implementation.
- Building **partnerships for transformation** with a diversity of regional and global stakeholders, like Bridges (UNESCO), Club of Rome, the Wellbeing Alliance and the Impact Coalition for Future Generations.

### Creating The Handbook for Long Term Governance

- Working with government officials, policy leaders and practitioners to **identify the main components of intergenerationally fair systems**, highlighting the importance of the interplay between citizens, leadership and institutions for the long term.
- Developing a **Maturity Framework** that allows countries to diagnose the current state of their governance systems, identify gaps, and plan to strengthen their approach.
- **Providing guidance** on how to assess current policies' intergenerational fairness, design long-term policy pathways in a context of extreme uncertainty, and build support nationally and internationally for this agenda.

#### **Next steps**

**Join the movement** and become a Champion of Future Generations:

- Engage with the Pledge and Pioneers Networks.
- Assess your national reality with the Maturity Framework.
- Use the [Action Package](#) to build national coalitions for Future Generations.
- Engage in multilateral conversations on the topic at the G20, OECD and elsewhere.

For more information and to get involved, contact: [claudette@soif.org.uk](mailto:claudette@soif.org.uk)