HORIZON SCANNING

PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION

The purpose of this discussion is to start looking to the future, scanning the horizon for new emerging trends that might have an important influence on your system in the future. Revisit the work you did previously on cross-scale interactions (particularly work cards 15 and 20) and use the questions below to guide your discussion.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- In addition to the current drivers and trends identified in work cards 15 and 20, what new drivers of change do you think will have an important influence on your system in the near future and more long-term? This could for example be new political or economic trends, technologies that are becoming more widely available, of changing social preferences. At what scales do these trends emerge?

- In what direction would you assume that these drivers would influence your system? If you don’t know, why is this a source of uncertainty? (i.e. you think climate change will be important, but it is uncertain how rainfall patterns in your region will be affected). What would be the consequences for different stakeholder groups?

- Is it likely that some of these drivers and trends will interact, e.g. new local food consumption patterns, and financial speculation on global food markets? If so, how might that influence your system?