The Open Prototyping
CONNECT
Tool

The primary objectives in Connect are to identify promising collaborations and build consensus on project directions.

The Connect stage invites you to map the relevant disciplinary expertise across artists, scientists, researchers, producers, stakeholders and community participants.

The stage enables the establishment of common resources and building ownership among participants.

Purpose of the tool

The Connect canvas invites you to think about the people you could connect with and resources you can draw in to explore the future scenarios further. It invites you to give equal consideration to the arts, technology and society.

What does it do?

At the centre, place a scenario, a set of themes or interests you would like to explore in this project.

Then explore who and what could be central to the project.
1. What is the societal challenge?
2. What technology and data could you employ?
3. What creative expertise is needed?
4. What kind of people are you looking to engage?

For each of the questions above consider:
• Who/what do you already have?
• Who/what could you engage?
• What are their interest, how the combine to add value?

How to use it?

**STEP 1: Map the stakeholder ecosystem.**
Explore and note the potential contributions available to each of the four areas. What are the core project group and current stakeholders looking to get out of it? How do you connect with new participants and align the scenario to their concerns?

**STEP 2: Connect interests to shape added value.**
How do the questions or challenges of your team, partners, customers, funders or others in the industry connect? How is the project helping to answer them through aligning needs, solutions, visions and values?

STEP 3: Situate the project.
What is the wider landscape around this? What activities, products, work and events are there? What are the current and near future trends in the area?
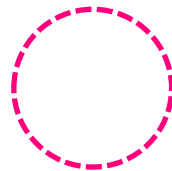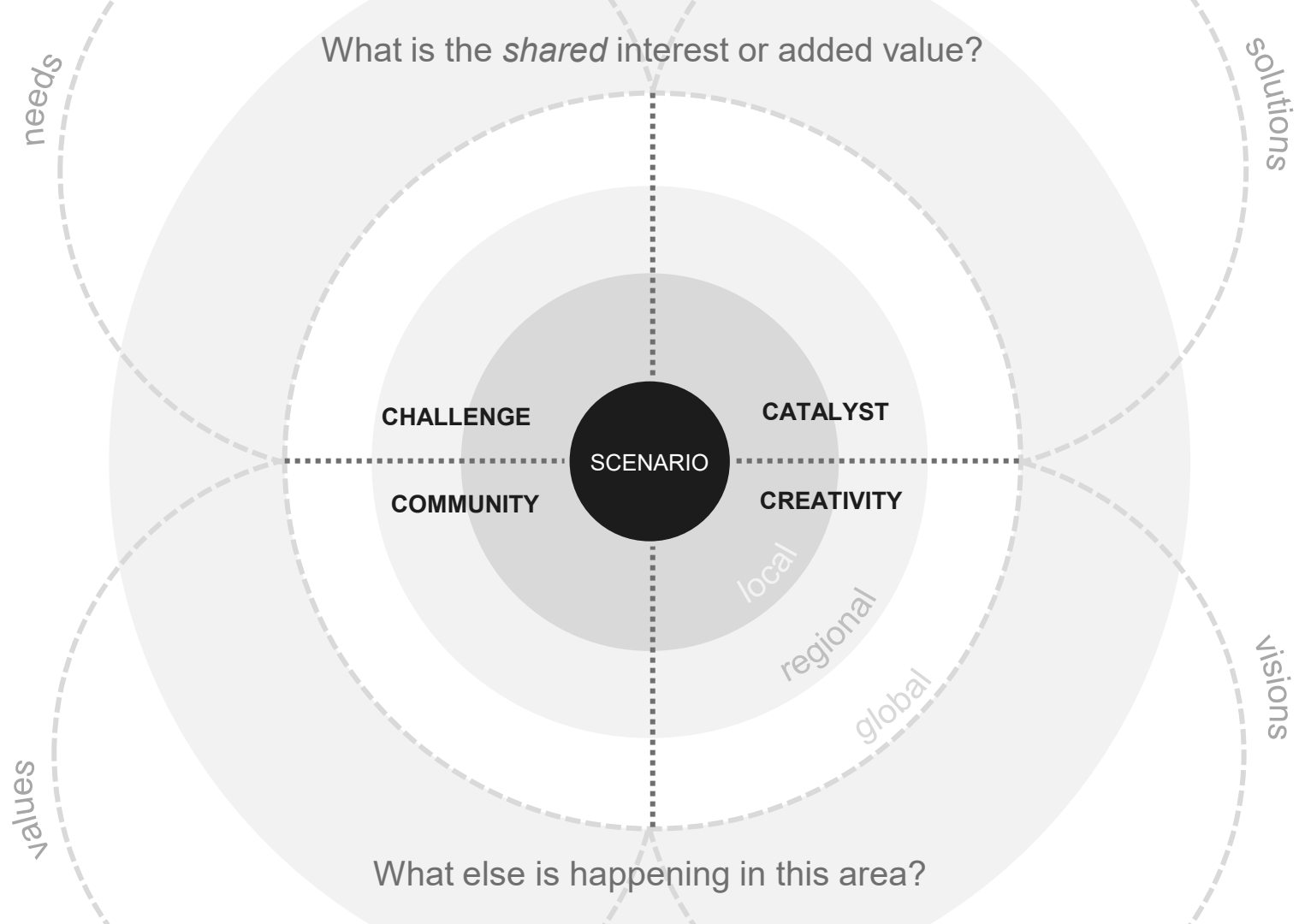
How do you capture outputs?

Having mapped out the critical connections to stakeholders and negotiated their interests, these can be summarised in a 2 x 2 matrix diagram, showing both difference and similarities in the interests at stake.

Resources are in the outer subdivisions of the matrix, while stakeholders (orgainsations, teams, individuals, etc.) are in the middle ones. Questions in the matrix can help you validate your alignment.

This summary can enable you to effectively assemble an interdisciplinary team, but ensuring representation from all four quadrants and co-option of interests, values and resources available to all participants.

Who can give access to this space?
Who's voices have not been heard?

What data can you access?
What skills, tools, infrastructure and other resources are available?

CATALYST

resources

CHALLENGE

resources

CREATIVITY

COMMUNITY

What relationships, networks, platforms can be mobilised?
How do we recognise and measure impact?

What precedents can be established as inspiration and guidance?
How do these issues touch people's lives?

stakeholders