

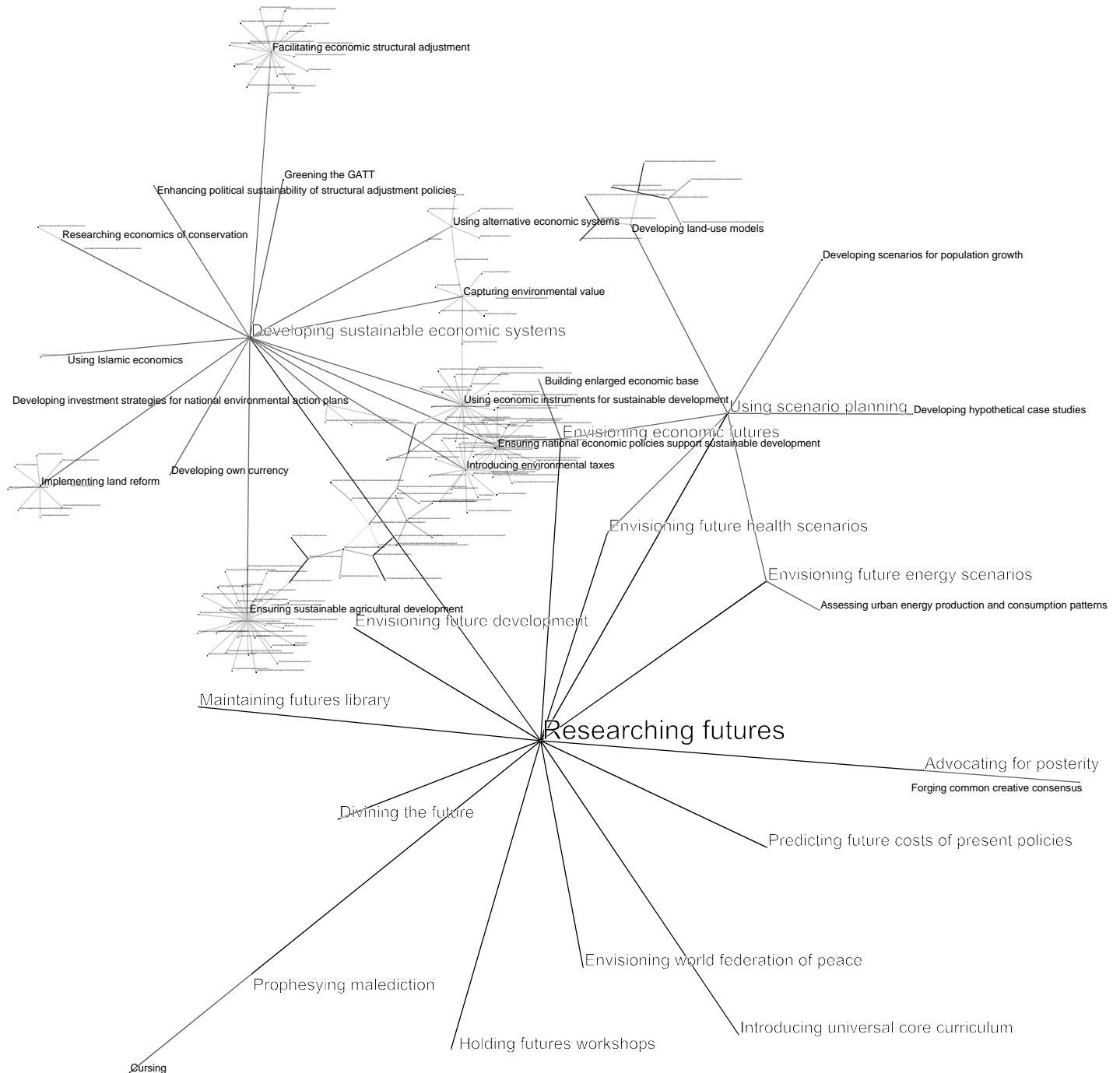
Figure 10.3.12.
Researching futures

Database: Global Strategies and Solutions

Link type: narrower strategies

Network nodes: 181

UIA database: <http://db.uia.org/scripts/sweb.dll/uiaf?DD=ST&CL=2&DR=Q0450>



Future studies comprise a broad range of interlinked activities which include: (a) conjectural, speculative and imaginative descriptions of the human future; (b) exploratory forecasts based on methodological extrapolation of past and present developments into the future; and (c) prescriptions, namely normatively oriented future projections in which explicit value assertions and choices are made about how a specific future may be viewed. Divination is a result of magical thinking in which the indicator and the event are perceived to be in some form of logical harmony where each is the cause or reflection of the other, and thus when the indicator is interpreted correctly the event can be predicted. It is also the fatalistic act of determining the will of the gods. Another kind of divination uses the computer to store hundreds and thousands of variable factors in models of phenomenal behaviour, and then, using algorithms which are accepted on faith, predicts future outcomes.