



**PMAC** | PRINCE MAHIDOL  
AWARD CONFERENCE **2018**



## **PLENARY SESSION 2**

**FUTURES OF PARTNERSHIPS FOR A SAFER WORLD**



## | BACKGROUND

This plenary is an interactive session that will introduce four core questions, based on the Futures approach, to shape the discourse of partnerships for greater biosecurity in the world. It will begin with an introduction of Futures thinking by Dr. Sohail Inayatullah, UNESCO Chair of Futures Studies and Professor at Tamkang University, Taiwan. Then, the plenary will involve a short discussion on the current state of partnerships or lack of in certain thematic areas, and challenges in forging effective partnerships. It will delve into exploring various futures for partnerships and what effective and inclusive partnerships can achieve to make the world a safer place for all. Attempting to jointly uncover the “unknown unknowns” within a Futures methodology will lead to an innovative approach in organizing an interactive plenary that would hopefully lead to new directions and interesting discussions within the parallel sessions.

## | OBJECTIVES

- To jointly envision possible scenarios for the future of partnerships in EID and AMR.
- To generate excitement in creating effective partnerships for a safer world by imagining alternate futures based on Futures techniques. It is envisioned that the novelty of the technique will add to the richness of PMAC and to bring in cross-disciplinary approaches into a Public Health conference.
- To get participants to think creatively in an out-of-the-box manner on working collaboratively together to build greater biosecurity for all.



Panelist / Panelist

## Mark Smolinski

*President*

Ending Pandemics  
United States of America

Mark Smolinski, MD, MPH brings 25 years of experience in applying innovative solutions to improve disease prevention, response, and control across the globe. Mark is leading a well-knit team—bringing together technologists; human, animal, and environmental health experts; and key community stakeholders to co-create tools for early detection, advanced warning, and prevention of pandemic threats. Community health workers, village volunteers, farmers, and interested public citizens in Albania, Brazil, Cambodia, Europe, Laos, Myanmar, Tanzania, Thailand, and the United States are among those using their own solutions to address pressing local needs. Since 2009, Mark has served as the Chief Medical Officer and Director of Global Health at the Skoll Global Threats Fund (SGTF), where he developed the Ending Pandemics in Our Lifetime Initiative in 2012. His work at SGTF created a solid foundation for the work of Ending Pandemics, which branched out as an independent entity on January 1, 2018. Prior to SGTF, Mark developed the Predict and Prevent Initiative at Google.org, as part of the starting team at Google’s philanthropic arm. Working with a team of engineers, Google Flu Trends (a project that had tremendous impact on the use of big data for disease surveillance) was created in partnership with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control. Mark has served as Vice President for Biological Programs at the Nuclear Threat Initiative, a public charity directed by CNN founder Ted Turner and former U.S. Senator Sam Nunn. Before NTI, he led an 18-member expert committee of the National Academy of Medicine on the 2003 landmark report “Microbial Threats to Health: Emergence, Detection, and Response.” Mark served as the sixth Luther Terry Fellow in Washington, D.C., in the Office of the U.S. Surgeon General and as an Epidemic Intelligence Officer with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.