Nanotechnologies for food and healthcare

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The National Research Council (CNR) and the Trieste Area Science Park Consortium (AREA), with the support of the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR), launched the *Science and Technology Foresight Project (STFP)* to strengthen the development of new research strategies and technologies in the medium to long term while facing important challenges related health, food, environment, energy, transportation, safety and security (http://foresight.cnr.it).

The identification of scientific and technological areas into which to channel resources can be gained through a forward-looking analysis exercise able to outline scientific futures and "reliable" scenarios of scientific and technological development. A key aspect of the project is the involvement of scientists and experts from academia, government and the private sector.

Using a highly interdisciplinary approach, preliminary workshops on "Nanotechnologies for sustainable food"[1] and on "Theranostics for personalised medicine"[2] were organised to share knowledge, to identify gaps, to point out obstacles, to identify needs for more and better education as well as for more funding, and to outline market potential and social acceptability for activities and products. The outcome of these workshops and the planning of future face-to-face meeting will be presented.

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[1] http://www.foresight.cnr.it/component/content/article/2-uncategorised/41-nano-for-sustainable-food
[2] http://www.foresight.cnr.it/component/content/article/2-uncategorised/39-personalized-medicine-theranostics