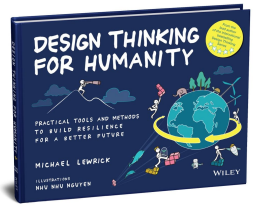
Project:
Team:
Version & Date:

System Boundaries & Stakeholder Mapping

Quick guide: This tool is usually the first step in any systemic analysis: it sets the scope of a wicked problem and maps the actors and elements, human and non-human, that make up the system.

More tips & tricks on book page: 244



Lewrick, M.
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1 Define the Wicked Problem & Initial Scope

Hold a collaborative session to define the initial boundaries: what is in our system, and what is outside of it for the purpose of this challenge?
What is history of the problem:
What are the cultural narratives:
What is in?
What is out?

2 Brainstorm All Stakeholders & Components

Use PESTLE as a prompt for a comprehensive scan to define the system map elements. Include non-human stakeholders (e.g., "the local watershed") and abstract stakeholders (e.g., "future generations.").

Constraints:

List all contraints.

SOCIAL & CULTURAL BOUNDARIES

TECHNOLOGICAL & ENVIRONMENTAL BOUNDARIES

Key Human Stakeholders
e.g., farmers, consumers, workers

Non-Human Stakeholders
e.g., soil health, watersheds, biodiversity

Futures & Abstract Stakeholders
e.g., future generations, community trust

Institutional actors
Government, NGOs, Corporations

ECONOMIC BOUNDARIES

POLITICAL & LEGAL BOUNDARIES

Iteration Check: ☐ **Is broad enough to capture the root causes?** ☐ **Is it narrow enough to be actionable?**

3 Create the system map

Visually arrange the stakeholders and components. Use simple connectors to show primary relationships and interdependencies. Stay on a high-level inventory, not a detailed causal loop diagram.

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