

# System's Thinking and Project Success

## A holistic approach

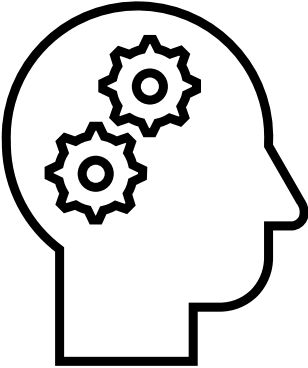
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# AGENDA

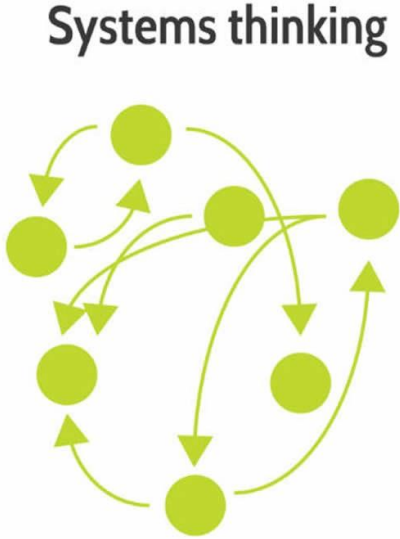
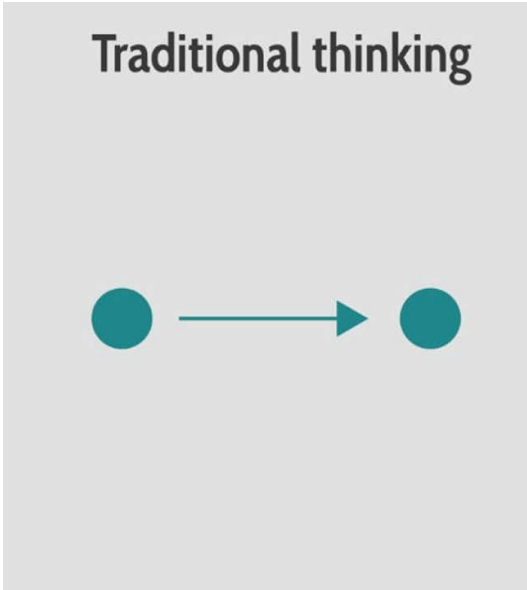
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# What is System's Thinking?



*Systems thinking is an integrative way to view a large and complex issue as part of group or system of elements that functions together as a whole*

- Think big picture
- The Human body ?
- A forest ecosystem
- Holistic view



# Value Proposition of Systems Thinking for Project Managers

Value	Description
<b>Enhanced Decision Making</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Helps project managers consider multiple variables and their interdependencies.</li><li>• Improves risk management by anticipating potential impacts across the project.</li><li>• Problem solving identify root cause instead of addressing symptoms</li></ul>
<b>Holistic Perspective</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enables a broader view of the project environment, considering the entire system rather than isolated components.</li><li>• Promotes better understanding of complex project dynamics.</li><li>• Risk management</li></ul>
<b>Improved Cross-Functional Collaboration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Encourages collaboration across departments and teams by focusing on interdependencies.</li><li>• Breaks down silos, leading to more effective communication and coordination.</li></ul>
<b>Continuous Improvement &amp; Long-term sustainability</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Learning organisation.</li><li>▪ Feedback loops.</li><li>▪ Integrates sustainability consideration such as resource optimization and project goals.</li></ul>

# Case Examples

Change requests

Scope Creep

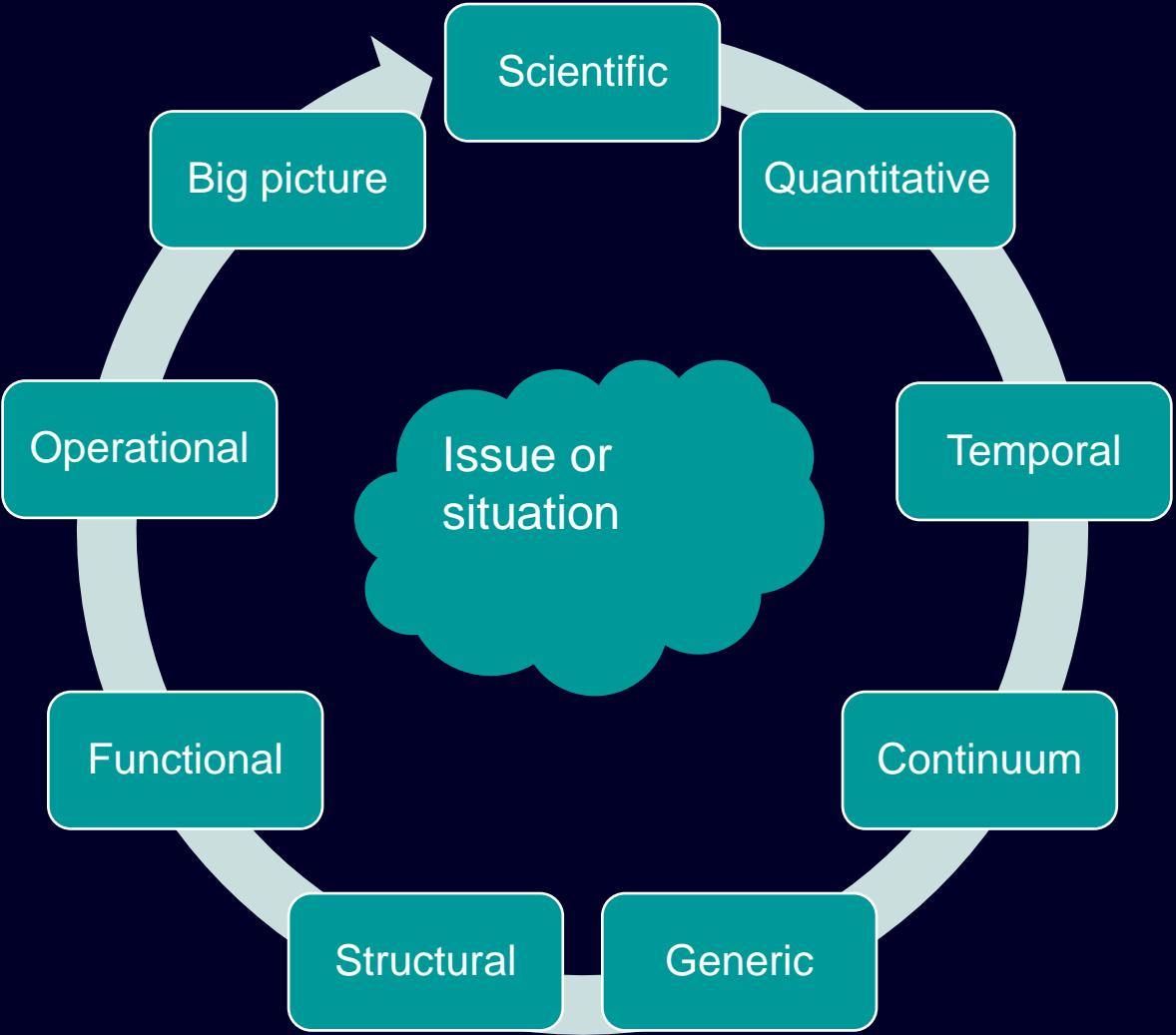
Timeline management

Supplier changes

Intercompany business

Risk Management

# Holistic System's Thinking Perspective



### External Perspective

- Big Picture
- Operational

### Internal Perspective

- Functional
- Structural

### Progressive Perspective

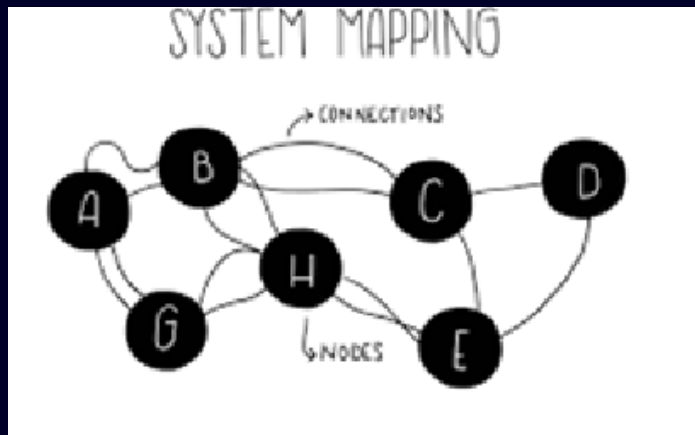
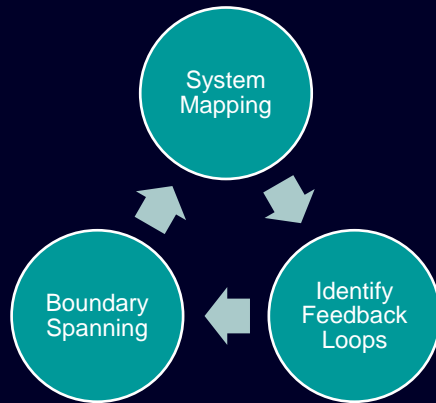
- Generic
- Continuum
- Temporal

### Remaining Perspective

- Quantitative
- Scientific

Reference Peter Senge

# Implementation of Systems Thinking in Project Management



## Steps to Incorporate Systems Thinking

1. Map out project components, relationships, and dependencies.
2. Understand positive and negative feedback loops for better decision-making.
3. Explore interactions with external systems or stakeholders

stakeholders.

# The Future of Systems Thinking in Project Management

## Emerging Trends

- Increasing project complexity necessitates a holistic approach.
- Integration with Agile or Lean methodologies offers iterative and adaptive project management.

## Impact of Technology

- AI and data analytics enable deeper analysis and better modeling of complex systems.
- Collaborative platforms support information sharing and the application of systems thinking across virtual teams.

## Conclusion

- Systems thinking will continue shaping project management practices.
- Integration with technology and methodologies will drive more effective project delivery and outcomes.



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