

FLOW SYSTEM

PARTICIPANT WORKBOOK

Complexity Thinking

Workbook 2: Weak Signal Detection



getflowtrained.com/playbook/wsd/

Weak Signal Detection Workbook 2

Where are the weak signals in your organization today?

Reflecting on your current situation - where do you believe there are weak signals unattended to at this time?



Remember to always be open to all sources of data and information:

- Select alternative solutions or theories.
- Do not react inappropriately or without sufficient information.
- Do not react to the wrong signals or react too soon.

Identification and Selection:

- Identification involves the processes of searching, redesigning, and inventing.
- Selection involves the processes of evaluation, criteria, and congruence.

Self-Coaching WSD Filtering

In the table below, identify a problem or issue that either you or your organization is currently facing. Under the WSD filtering rows, provide answers to the three items: select alternative solutions, plan of action, and timing of action.

WEAK SIGNAL DETECTION - FILTERING	
Select alternative solutions (list several alternative solutions)	
Plan of action (develop a plan for action, when to act)	
Timing of action (identify the best time to act and how)	

Self-Coaching WSD Identification

In the table below, continue working on the same problem or issue. Under the WSD identification rows, provide answers to the three items: search, redesign, and invent. Provide the steps for each and the results from each step.

WEAK SIGNAL DETECTION - IDENTIFICATION	
Search (broad and inclusive; what and how was the search conducted?).	
Redesign (What could be redesigned?).	
Invent (What might be invented as a solution?).	

Self-Coaching WSD Selection

In the table below, continue working on the same problem or issue. Under the WSD selection rows, provide answers to the three items: evaluation, criteria, and congruence plan. Provide the steps for each and the results from each step.

WEAK SIGNAL DETECTION - SELECTION	
Evaluation (best alternative related to the problem/issue). Why is this solution better than the others?	
Criteria (requirements; what are the criteria for an approved solution?)	

WEAK SIGNAL DETECTION - SELECTION (CONT.)

Congruence plan (agreement;
how will the stakeholders decide
on the best solution?)

Connect the Three Helixes:

Flow can only be achieved when the three helixes are interconnected. To identify how this could occur, the next exercise requires the reader to identify examples of different methods from each of the other two helixes (distributed leadership, team science) that might work well with, or support, weak signal detection. Knowledge of all three helixes will be required to make these connections.

COMPLEXITY THINKING



DISTRIBUTED LEADERSHIP



TEAM SCIENCE



CONTINUOUS
IMPROVEMENT



RESPECT
FOR PEOPLE



CUSTOMER
FIRST



RESPECT
FOR HUMANITY



ELIMINATE
WASTE

CONNECT THE HELIXES

Select a scenario or problem that
would benefit from weak signal
detection.

Identify three methods from distributed leadership that could work with weak signal detection and give a brief description about how they complement one another.	
DL Method 1:	
DL Method 2:	
DL Method 3:	
Identify three methods from the team science helix that could work with weak signal detection and give a brief description about how they complement one another.	
TS Method 1:	
TS Method 2:	
TS Method 3:	
Provide a description explaining which methods from each of the three helixes (with weak signal detection being the CT method) work best for the scenario/ problem identified earlier.	