

## **Systems Thinking Reflection**

### **1. Problem/Situation:**

The visual diagram is a logical leader illustration due to the problem of project delay, which results in the ineffective use of resources. There are few projects, particularly in engineering, that have been delayed for only one reason, but as a result of an intricate system of motivators, such as workload imbalance, feedback cycle, team morale, and stakeholder pressure, which increases when not dealt with systematically.

### **2. Importance of Systems Thinking:**

In such cases, systems thinking is crucial because it helps to look deeper than the obvious symptoms and includes an analysis of the causal relationships. Systems thinking, unlike linear thinking, is a methodology that introduces the concept of feedback loops, whether positive or negative, which can reshape their effects. This system-oriented approach fosters an understanding that resolving only one part of the system (for example, hiring new engineers) may lead to the emergence of new issues elsewhere (for example, team fatigue or coordination problems). They have a more generalized perspective and can foresee the unpleasant and unexpected, enabling them to create long-term solutions.

### **3. Application in Real-World Leadership:**

In a real-world scenario, I would apply systems thinking to assess policy changes, project workflows, and team dynamics. Before I decided to push back a deadline due to pressure as a project manager, I would first think about what that would do to my team's long-term morale, quality, and overall performance. In decision-making meetings, I could utilize tools like Causal Loop Diagrams instead of addressing an isolated symptom to a larger issue (Qudrat-Ullah, 2024). This fosters an attitude among workers that is proactive and adaptive to change, propelling them towards our objective, which is crucial to success in a highly volatile engineering work environment.

## Reference

Qudrat-Ullah, H. (2024). Creativity Loops–Based Decision Making. *Springer Nature Switzerland, Cham, Switzerland. doi, 10, 978-3.*

<https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-3-031-70270-9.pdf>