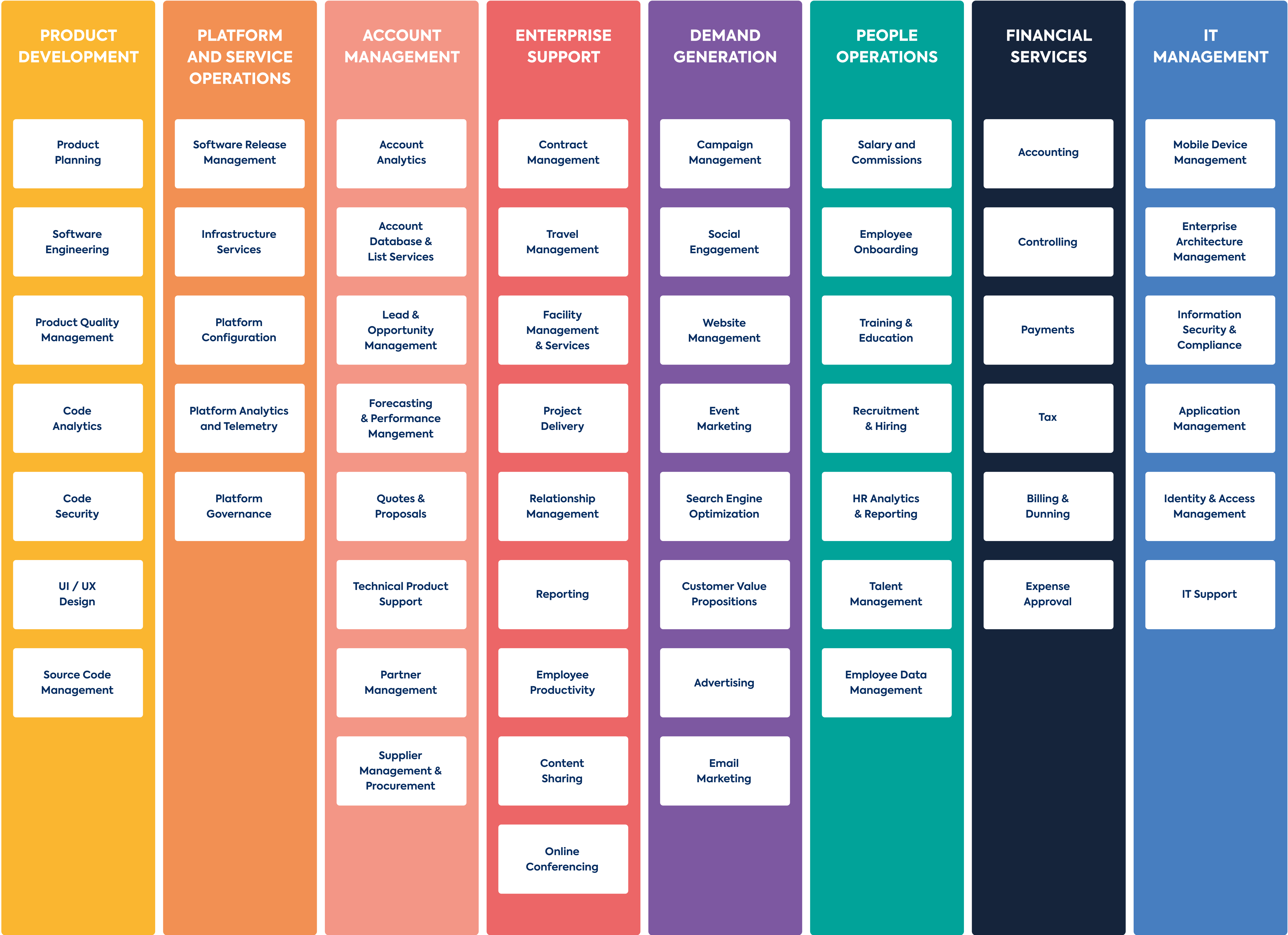









The LeanIX Business Capability Model



BEST PRACTICES

Business capability modeling is a technique for the representation of an organization’s business anchor model, independent of the organization’s structure, processes, people, or domains. Even for companies like LeanIX who specialize in enterprise architecture, business capabilities are an essential way to manage services in relation to their underlying technology.

Here is a visual guide into the business capabilities at LeanIX to help other fast-growing software companies model their IT-business landscapes.

-  **Don't overlap**
Good capabilities do not overlap; they are mutually exclusive. A good test is to check whether you can assign Level 2 capabilities without ambiguity.
-  **Define “What”; not “How”**
Business capabilities encapsulate what a business is doing right now and what it must be doing to meet current and future challenges.
-  **Long-term stability**
Properly defined business capabilities are fairly stable over time, persisting throughout any organizational changes. Only major business model updates should affect them.
-  **Cross-organizational**
Don't focus too much on business units. Capabilities should remain the same and be independent of the current structure of the organization.
-  **7 to 10 capabilities at the top level**
The highest-level capabilities should be a complete description of your business. Aim to make your categories reflect key aspects of what the business actually does.
-  **Breadth rather than depth**
Don't go too deep. Illustrate the breadth of your organization’s business capabilities by going no more than three levels down. This will be enough to represent the IT landscape of your enterprise.
-  **Accepted by all stakeholders**
The goal of business capabilities is that they become a common basis for discussion and planning. Take every opportunity to anchor your organization’s processes to the model.
-  **Linking strategy and execution**
Involve those who define the strategies when creating your map. Consider strategy as one input when defining your business capabilities on the highest level.