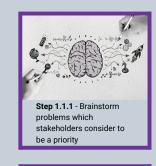


1.1 PROBLEM STATEMENT



PROBLEM STATEMENT STORYBOARD









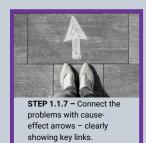


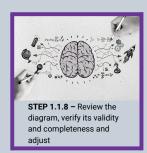
problem tree by defining

the cause/effect relation

between the problems







Write the draft of your one line problem statement

A well defined problem statement identifies the negative aspects of an existing situation, while defining a boundary (time, finance, geography) around that specific situation or challenge.

Example: "The quality of easily accessible water is declining 10% every year globally".

THE INPUT

5 Why's Technique: What problem do you want to solve? Why is it happening?

THE OUTPUT

Primary: One line problem statement

Secondary: Problem Tree

Primary Effect Primary Effect Primary Effect

Main Problem

Primary Cause Primary Cause Primary Cause

Interdary Come Interdary Come Interdary Come Interdary Come Interdary Come Interdary Come

THE PROCESS

• STEP 1.1 – Problem Analysis by creating a problem tree

The problem analysis identifies the negative aspects of an existing situation and establishes the "cause and effect" relationships between the identified problems. Creating a problem tree should ideally be undertaken as a participatory group event.

It is suggested to use individual pieces of paper or cards on which to write individual problem statements, which can then be sorted into cause and effect relationships on a visual display.

STEP 1.1.1 – Identify major existing problems, based upon available information Openly brainstorm problems which stakeholders consider to be a priority. Write down each problem on a separated visual support (paper/cards/strategyzer)

STEP 1.1.2 - Select an individual starter, a focal problem for analysis

STEP 1.1.3 – Look for related problems to the starter problem: identify substantia and direct causes/effects of the focal problem

STEP 1.1.4 – Look for related problems to the starter problem: identify substantial and direct causes/effects of the focal problem

STEP 1.1.5 – Begin to construct the problem tree by establishing a hierarchy of cause and effects relationship between the problems: Problems which are directly causing the starter problem are put below / Problems which are direct effects of the starter problem are put above

STEP 1.1.6 – All other problems are then sorted in the same way – the guiding question being 'What causes that?' If there are two or more causes combining to produce an effect, place them at the same level in the diagram.

STEP 1.1.7 – Connect the problems with cause-effect arrows – clearly showing key

STEP 1.1.8 – Review the diagram, verify its validity and completeness and make necessary adjustment: Ask yourself/the group – 'are there important problems that have not been mentioned yet?' If so, include them at an appropriate place in the diagram.

THE SELF-

- Does the product or service have a clearly defined one line problem statement?
- Does the problem statement clearly describe the problem, in a negative way, clearly presenting geographic, time, economic, social or technological constraints?
- Does the problem statement clearly define who is suffering from the problem?
- Does the organization have clarity of the causes and effects of the main problems on which the solution presented by the product or service focuses?
- Do the causes and effects clearly define metrics through which tracking progress will be possible once a viable solution alternative have been defined?



The MicroCanvas Framework by Doulab is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License. Based on original by Luis Santiago (https://lsantiago.net), Doulab (https://doulab.net) and the MicroCanvas Community published at https://themicrocanvas.com. For a copy of this license, http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/ or send a letter to Creative Commons, PO Box 1866, Mountain View, CA 94042, USA. MCF-Tools-Problem v 0.1 - April 17th, 2020