

THE REGENERATIVE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

Carol Sanford Institute



SYSTEMS FRAMEWORKS DIFFERENTIATED

“If we do not consciously use frameworks, we will unconsciously use unshared mental models. Innovation required us to let go of mechanical mental models and be conscious of our thinking processes.

There are many offerings of frameworks but only one based on Living Systems at work. They call for personal self-management to not fall into old mental models using while using a new living systems framework. When you are able to manage yourself and your consciousness, the Living Systems Framework brings you new power. If you work on automatic, they will seem like nothing new is happening.

Living Systemic Framework:

- They enable us to see *HOW* we are thinking about *What* we are thinking about
- They enable us to share our way of thinking to improve our working together
- They build critical thinking skills in a community while maintain independence of thought
- They divert egos to work on collective thinking by focusing on the work, not the roles and personalities
- They minimize the effect of hierarchy by putting everyone on the same page and into the same process,
- Promote developmental effects since they grow individual personal development and critical thinking skills, needed to climb the levels of Effects.

We all work with mental models in our head when we think. We learned them years ago from family, school, churches or work environments. Most were adopted without examination. They lead us to see some things and not others. For the most part they are partial and not systemic. For example, we often think in what is right and wrong with something, as if there were only two views and they could be split into parts and weighted. Or we think in linear terms seeing things sequential when they are more dynamic and interrelated. The problem is this is not a systemic way of seeing the world. It is an elemental way, seeing parts and pieces, and mostly as fixed entities. These mental models are invisible to us.

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Living Systems Frameworks are explicit ways to work with managing our thinking, collectively particularly, and to invite us to be more complete and thorough in our thinking as well as see the relationships that need to be held in mind because they are inseparably connected in real life. The most important question we can ask before we go to work is, “*How* should we be thinking about this?” before we start to work. Otherwise we engage in “thoughting”, bringing our existing, and likely old ideas, into the present and do not think anew. Different outcomes require different degrees of complexity and depth of thinking. Agreeing on what framework we will use to guide our thinking is like agreeing on the glasses we all use to look at something. It makes *how* we think intentional, rather than accidental, and shared.

Purpose of Regenerative Systems frameworks: To see the world as a systemic whole, which can be understood with increasingly complexity, by using different “windows” and by taking a different number of terms into consideration. It is like what we mean when we say, “to think in terms of...” Frameworks represent a way to see what we normally do not see and to see things in a more integrated and living way. Not seeing in this way leads us to social, planetary as well as practice day-to-day challenges.

Products:

Deep alignment: Shared processes means we can think about subjects and decisions that allows alignment in a more effective way. Individuals in a collective are often thinking in different ways about a subject being discussed and/or are in different places in the process in their thinking. People need to know not only what we think but also how we will get to it. Shared language meaning. Shared processes form which to develop more systemic and comprehensive thinking.

Self-to-self interactions: Egos, personalities and roles, tend to determine the nature and outcome of interactions and management. Frameworks dissolve roles and egos and raise up the highest self in each person to bring themselves forward.

Accuracy in Foreseeing and Management of pursuits and endeavors: More accurate view of the world emerges through use of the order and ordering of dynamic phenomena in our minds even as the phenomena change and move.

Process: Our thinking and decision making processes are significantly under developed even though we have likely taken many classes and read many books on the subject. And most people are not aware of the opportunity to significantly

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improve their ability to think about the world more accurately, by thinking about it with a systems view. A systems view is a view of the world as it really is, not as we currently think it is. It is a dynamic complex collection of interacting, reorganizing and evolving entities and processes. But our current processes of thinking see it as a set of elements and parts that are more fixed and static and not capable of evolution.

Functioning Capability to use them:

Right Brain working, and enabling the more systems engagement of left-brain processing, using imaging of the working of something specific and concrete, and working dynamically, in real time.

Management of state and paradigm in required for discernment