

Systems Mapping

With special thanks to:

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Systems Mapping

System = The configuration of interacting, interdependent parts (e.g., individuals, organizations, and institutions across multiple sectors) with which a person or organization interacts when seeking a particular goal.

**WHO or WHAT ORGANIZATIONS
might you encounter on your journey?**

Systems Mapping

Instructions

1. Draw a circle in the center of a blank page and label it with your project or goal
2. Draw and label the orgs and people you will come into contact with on your journey towards achieving that goal
3. Include both *obstacles* and *facilitators*
4. Draw **blue** lines connecting you to the facilitators and **red** lines connecting you to the obstacles. If you aren't sure whether they are obstacles or facilitators, make them black.

Example



Systems Mapping

Instructions (cont.)

Consider these steps to add more information to the map:

- Shade the organizations based on the intensity of your relationship, using the darkest color for those you have the strongest relationship with, and lighter colors for those with whom your relationships are weaker.
- Some people or organizations might have more influence over your project or goal. Show those who have the greatest influence by changing the color of the outline of the box to yellow.

Example



Questions

- What stands out about your map?
- What can you do to help leverage those items on your map that facilitate your work?
- Are the obstacles significant? Which obstacles can you work around and which must you find a way to mitigate?