



# Self-leadership for scientists

Olsztyn, March 2024





#### Topics covered

- Organization of own work
- Decision making
- Motivation
- Assertive communication
- Guiding personal development



## Problems - design thinking

- interpersonal problems in the research team, lack of a leader in the research team, problems in time management, communication problems, lack of appropriate tools to support the work of research teams and inability to reconcile the mission, vision and goals of the team members
- 2. lack of motivation to work, a difficulty in finding creative ways to create research teams and a lack of contacts with potential partners



#### Ground rules





Questions and comments are welcome any time



We learn from each other



We keep disclosed facts and opinions confidential



9:00 - 16:00**CET** 



What else?

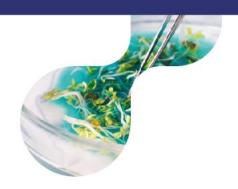




### In pairs

- What fact from the past of your peer is unknown to the group?
- What is hers/his research interest?
- What is a professional goal of your peer to be reached in the next 2-3 years?
- What she/he wants to develop during this training?
- After the interview, your task will be to briefly introduce her/him to the other people





# Organization of own work











#### Importance and urgency

#### **IMPORTANCE** –

is the case relevant to achieving my goals?

#### **URGENCY** -

does the matter need to be rushed or can it wait?

#### Α

Urgent and important tasks
It's a "firefighting" type of thing.

#### B

Non-urgent and important tasks
These things often take time to
get things done, but they're easy
to put off. The problem arises
when sooner or later they

become urgent.

#### C

#### **Urgent and unimportant tasks**

There are usually "easy" things to deal with here. We are tempted to take care of them because we feel that we are doing well.

#### D

Non-urgent and unimportant tasks This is where things come up that we don't really have to deal with at all. But here is sometimes fun...

#### Eisenhower Matrix

# A Urgent and important tasks Do it as fast as you can!

# Non-urgent and important tasks

Realistically schedule time on your calendar and keep it!

# C Urgent and unimportant tasks

Deal with "blocks" when there is no more fire.

#### D

Non-urgent and unimportant tasks

Remember to have some time for them!







## Important and urgent – good practices

- Be clear about your priorities
- Check if outsourced tasks can't wait
- Communicate the expected date of handling the case
- When refusing to do something "right away", use the word "because"

#### Good practices

- Prioritizing usually doesn't take a lot of thinking. If you don't have time to think, remember that most life
  choices are made right away without having complete information. No one who acts under pressure is
  infallible. Perfectionists have the biggest problem with this. If you are one of them, hold off on making a
  decision for as long as possible and then make the best move.
- Don't just be guided by what you like and don't like to do. Such criteria for selecting priorities rarely produce good results. Use the available information, intuition and even feelings, but don't be guided only by what you feel.
- Manage your time wisely. Take a moment to plan your activities and set priorities. This will give you more time later and avoid a flurry of things, thus saving you the uncertainty of whether you will be able to get everything done on time. People who are short on time generally say that they have not had time to plan their work.
- Avoiding choices means that you have to make even more choices later. It makes life more difficult, and you can lose a lot: the next day the price can be twice as high.
- Respect other people's time. In general, the following is true: the higher the position, the less time you have. Use not only your own time but also the time of others. Try to take up as little time as possible, get straight to the point.



# The Pomodoro Technique



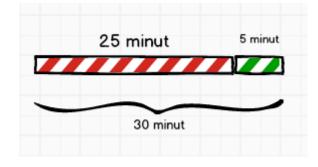
#### The Pomodoro Technique

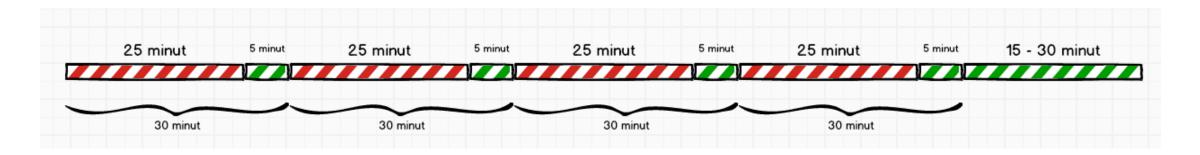
- 1. Select a task to complete
- 2. Set a timer for 25 minutes
- 3. Work on the task throughout Pomodoro
- 4. Mark a task as done
- 5. You take a 5-minute break
- 6. After 4 Pomodoro, you will take a longer break





#### The Pomodoro Technique





Source: https://czterytygodnie.pl/produktywnosc-metoda-pomodoro-francesco-cirillo/



#### To-do lists

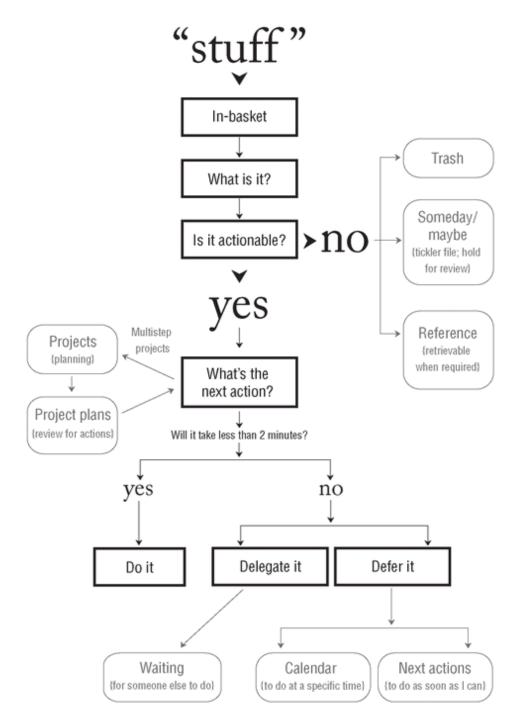
- Only one list
- Add/cross out
- Put ALL things (including private ones) they also take time
- Work contextually (if we can call, we make calls from the list)
- Do inspections (daily and weekly)



#### Tools

- ToDo List (Microsoft)
- Tasks (Outlook) integration with ToDo
- Kanban board (Planner)
- Paper notebook/calendar
- Whiteboard & Postits

#### Getting Things Done (GTD) Job Stream



#### Planning

- Make planning
- Plan weekly
- Plan on Friday
- Schedule uninterrupted blocks of work (costs of shifting attention 15-20 minutes)
- Schedule breaks
- Accumulate doing similar things, including checking your mail
- Designate the hours when you respond to emails.





EFFECTIVE PEOPLE

Stephen R. Covey UPDATED WITH FRESH INSIGHTS BY

SEAN COVEY NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR

FOREWORD BY JIM COLLINS

Circle of Care

Circle of influence

Circle of Control

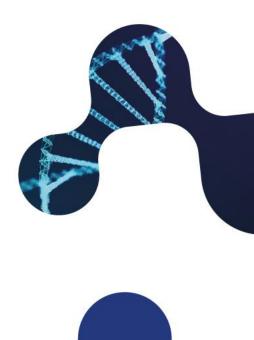
This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 952601





# Decision-making







- Coffee and a donut cost together 1.10 \$.
- Coffee is 1\$ more expensive than a donut.

How much does a donut cost?



- Mark was chosen randomly from among the inhabitants of Olsztyn.
- He is shy, willing to help, likes structure and order.

 Which is more probable - that Mark works in sales or is a librarian?

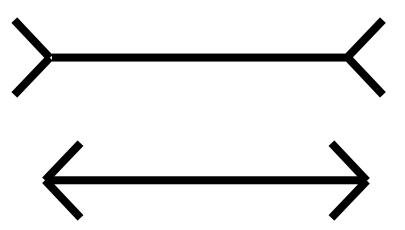




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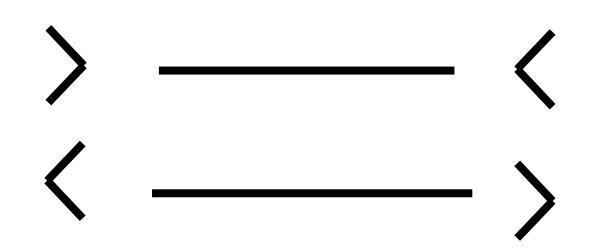












# Decision-making



System 1	System 2
Intuitive thinking	Analytical thinking
Difficult problems solved by "simplification operations" - heuristics	Difficult problems solved in a "rational" way
They can lead to cognitive biases	They require effort, concentration, and are easy to give up





## Decision-making strategies



Systematic process of generating, analyzing, and selecting options



Expert-based intuition



Intuition, based on heuristics, prone to cognitive biases

## Decision-making process

Posing the problem

Analysis of the problem

Discovering possible solutions

Choosing a solution







#### 5 Why

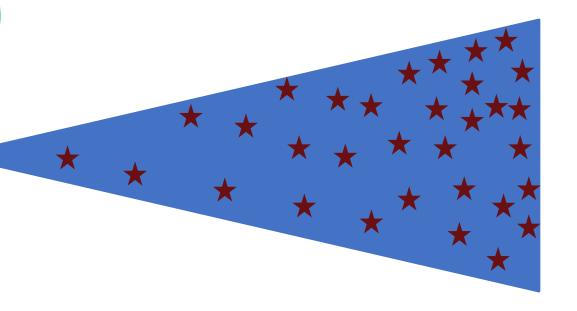
- Why do you stay after hours at work?
- ▶ 'Cause I've got a lot of work to do.
- ▶ Why do you have a lot of work?
- ▶ Because he doesn't delegate tasks to his team.
- Why don't you delegate tasks to your team?
- ▶ Because I don't know to whom.
- ▶Why don't you know who?
- ▶ Because I don't know who's the best.
- ▶ Why don't you know who's the best?
- ▶ Because I rarely talk to them.







### Creating solutions



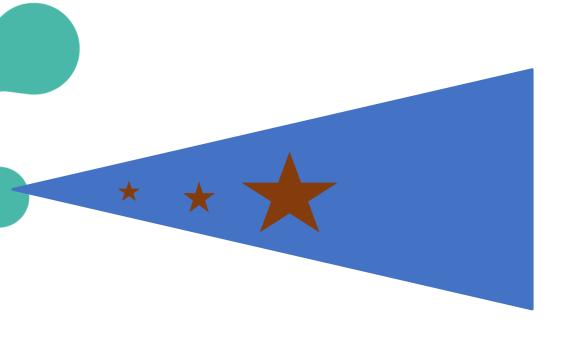
To make a good decision, you need to find **as many options as possible** to solve the problem







# Creating Solutions - Narrowing Down



#### How to cope?

- What would we do if this solution was impossible?
- What other solution would be possible?
- What are the costs and what is the alternative to use them?
- What did we do in similar situations?
   What do others do in similar situations?

#### Selection of options

- Priorities
- Criteria. E.g. available time, budget, co-workers.
- Checking to what extent the solution is consistent with the strategy, values and our interests.
- The answer to the question "What solution would the person who would come in my place (or a person not emotionally attached to the topic) choose?"
- Use of so-called decision grids

#### How to be sure?

- Conduct a risk analysis. What are the strengths and weaknesses of this decision?
- Ask another person to play the role of "devil's advocate" and find weaknesses in your reasoning.
- Conduct a "pre-mortem" analysis, i.e. imagine that you have made a decision, e.g. a year has passed and it turned out that it was a mistake. Write on a piece of paper why.

#### A decision on one sheet of paper

What problem do you want to solve with your decision?

What type of problem is it?

What conclusions do you have from the problem analysis (e.g. 5W). What does the problem look like after the analysis? What options do you see for solving the problem? What are the options? To avoid narrowing down, write down more than three.

How will you evaluate possible solutions?

Which solution do you choose? Why?

How do you confirm the validity of a decision? What risks do you need to take care of?

How will you monitor the effects of your decision?

THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

THINKING,

FAST AND SLOW



DANIEL

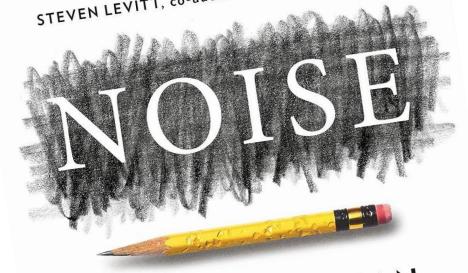
KAHNEMAN

WINNER OF THE NOBEL PRIZE IN ECONOMICS

"[A] masterpiece ... This is one of the greatest and most engaging collections of —william Easterly, Financial Times

# THE INTERNATIONAL BESTSEEL

'ABSOLUTELY BRILLIANT'
STEVEN LEVITT, co-author of FREAKONOMICS



A FLAW IN HUMAN
JUDGMENT

DANIEL KAHNEMAN
AUTHOR OF THINKING, FAST AND SLOW

OLIVIER SIBONY CASS R. SUNSTEIN



#### Motivation









# Frederich Herzberg's motivational-hygiene theory:

- The two-factor theory states that there are certain factors in the workplace that cause job satisfaction, and a separate set of factors cause dissatisfaction.
- Motivators: Such as challenging work, recognition and responsibility that give positive satisfaction, arising from intrinsic conditions of the job itself, such as recognition, achievement, or personal growth

#### and

• **Hygiene factors:** Such as status, job, security, salary, benefits, work conditions, that do not give positive satisfaction or lead to higher motivation but dissatisfaction results from their absence.







## Tamara Lowe: Motivations' "DNA"

Motivated people advance further and faster in their careers, earn more money, are more productive, experience more satisfying relationships and are happier than less motivated people.

- Law #1: Everyone is motivated differently.
- Law #2: Each individual has a unique and distinct motivational type.
- Law #3: What motivates one person can de-motivate another.
- Law #4: No one motivational type is "better" than another.



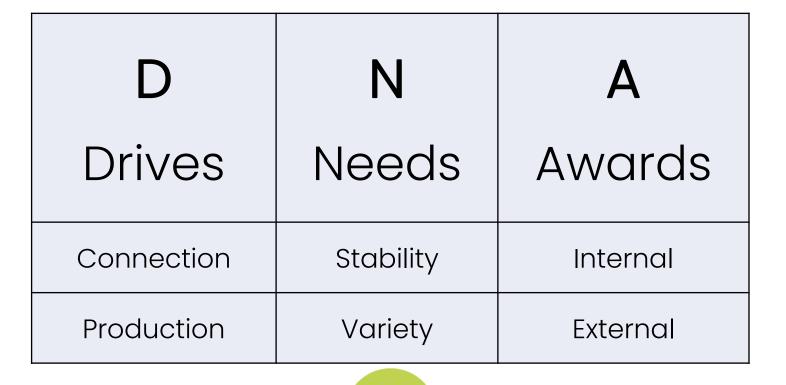




## Tamara Lowe: Motivations' "DNA"

- DRIVES The internal forces that mobilize a person to act.
- **NEEDS** The core requirements that a person must have in order to be fulfilled.
- **AWARDS** The preferred remunerations that a person desires for achievement; the material, spiritual, and psychological currency that they want to be paid for performance.



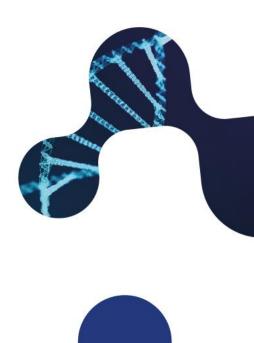


- 1. Do you tend to be more competitive or cooperative?
  - Production or Connection
- 2. Do you prefer constancy or change?
  - Variety or Stability
- 3. Which would make you feel more valued at work: sincere appreciation without a financial bonus, or a bonus without appreciation?
  - Internal or External



# Attitude







# Think of a time when someone treated you unfairly...

What happened to you?
Who treated you unfairly?
What did he do wrong?
What should he have done?
How can he fix this?
What happens if he doesn't change?
How can you suffer in the future?



# Think of a time when someone treated you unfairly...

What challenge did you face?
How did you react?
What was the the result?
What could you have done differently?
How can you make your efforts more effective?
What other action would be consistent with you?
What can you learn from this experience?



# Think of a time when someone treated you unfairly...

**SET A** 

SET B

**VICTIM** 

**PARTICIPANT** 



### Words have power!

What emotions

does it evoke?

What thought

process does it

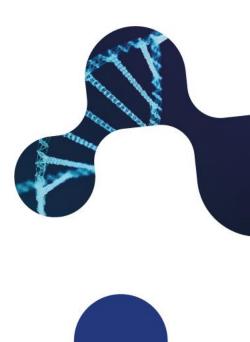
trigger?

Troubles vs. Challenges Contrast vs. Complementarity Pain vs. Suffering Request vs. Request Why vs. For what reason? Must vs. Decide/Resolve It's hard vs. It takes effort



## Assertiveness









### What is assertiveness?

Talking about your strengths and weaknesses,

Admitting mistakes and apologizing,

Asking for something we want

Denying

Receiving and giving compliments,

Accepting criticism and negative evaluations,

Finishing difficult cases, conversations,

Expressing the feelings we have for others,

Reacting to the difficult issues of others.



## I statement

- YOU STATEMENT
- (avoidance of responsability):
- You make me angry;
- You're working badly;
- The meeting was hopeless;
- I had to do it;
- Don't talk to me

#### I STATEMENT

#### (taking responsibility):

- I'm angry;
- My negative opinion is that... (description of behavior)
- I'm unhappy with the meeting;
- I did it;
- I don't like/disagree when you address me like this



### I statement



I feel \_\_\_\_ (emotion word) because I \_\_\_\_ (something about me).

In the future, I would like \_\_\_\_ (precise action)





## Positive Enquiry

An assertive way of responding to compliments or positive comments by asking a question that elicits more information while accepting them.

#### For example:

Someone says - I loved your presentation.

Passive response — "Thanks, it was nothing great / it didn't take much effort"

**Positive Enquiry** — "Thanks. Was there a specific part that you liked? I'll make sure I do it more often"





# Negative Enquiry

An assertive way of responding to complaints or criticism by asking a question that elicits more information while standing your ground.

#### For example:

Someone says - I did not like the way you handled that project.

**Aggressive response** — ""Screw you. Where were you when I was struggling"

Negative Enquiry — "I appreciate your feedback. Where specifically do you think I could have done better? Is there a way you could have helped me?"



## **Assertive refusal**

The word NO + what we are not going to do

A short and truthful justification for the refusal, possibly a proposal of an alternative

I can't help you right now,

As I'm finishing the report I've pledged to send at 4.00 p.m.

I can look at it tomorrow morning.

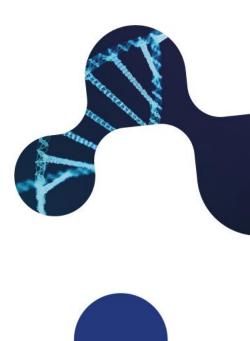
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# Self-leadership







# What is a "strategy"?

Strategy is a way to get where you want to be using the means available.







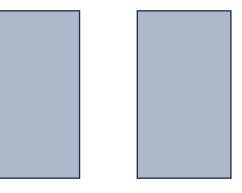


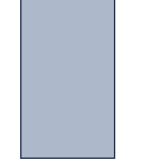
Key elements of the strategy

Vision (where are you going)

Mission (what are you here for)

Objectives (what for when)





Personal Values









# 5 Key Questions

1. Where are you now?

5. How should you measure progress? 2. Where do you want to go?

4. How should the changes be implemented?

3. What changes need to be made?

# Examples 70-20-10

70%

workplace activities

training on the job

participation in the projects

20%

gathering feedback

coaching

mentoring

networking

10%

training

conferences

studies

books, press, portals

Intention

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTION

Greater knowledge sharing within the team

Goal

WAY/WHAT TO DO

Increasing the number of regular meetings aimed at sharing knowledge and experience

Actions (70-20-10)

BY MEANS OF

- Creating an annual schedule of meetings (how much, on what occasions, who leads, how long they last, what they end up with...)
- Discussing the agenda of meetings with the team (or with the Supervisor)
- Implementation of the meeting plan in the life of the team - Once a quarter, presenting the results of the meetings to the team/supervisor.
- Creating a place on Teams where you can find notes from meetings (the possibility for employees to return to the discussed topics and a chance for ongoing monitoring by the Supervisor).





# Success is what happens when opportunity meets preparation







## Action Learning groups

- 2.5 hour long online meeting
- In the group of 4-5
- Discussing important issued releted to the training topic
- Learning from each other
- Facilitated by the trainer

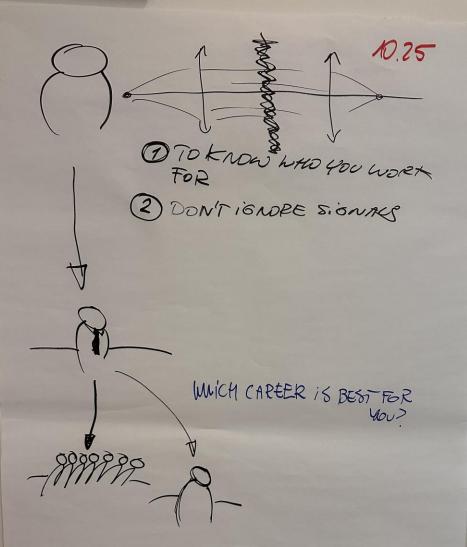
### Contact

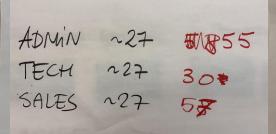
## Tomasz Cichocki

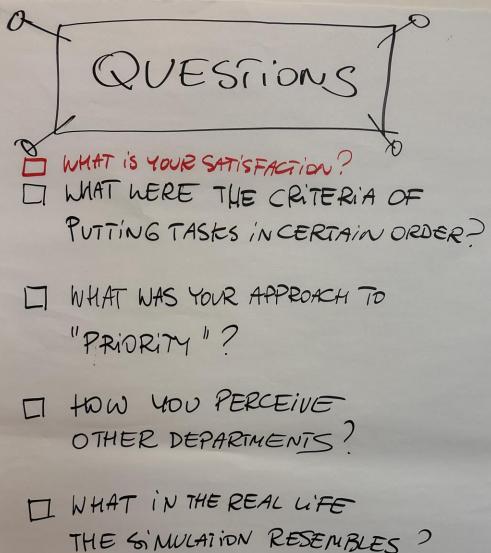
tomasz@tomaszcichocki.pl

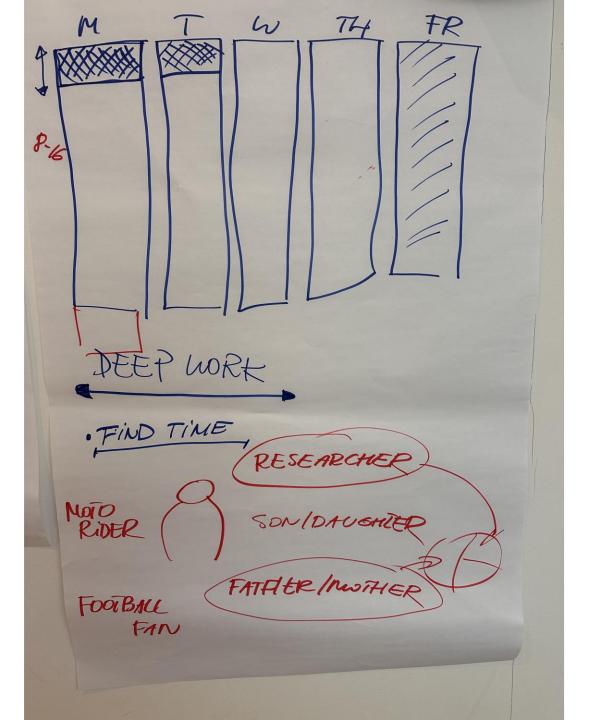
https://www.linkedin.com/in/tomaszcichocki/

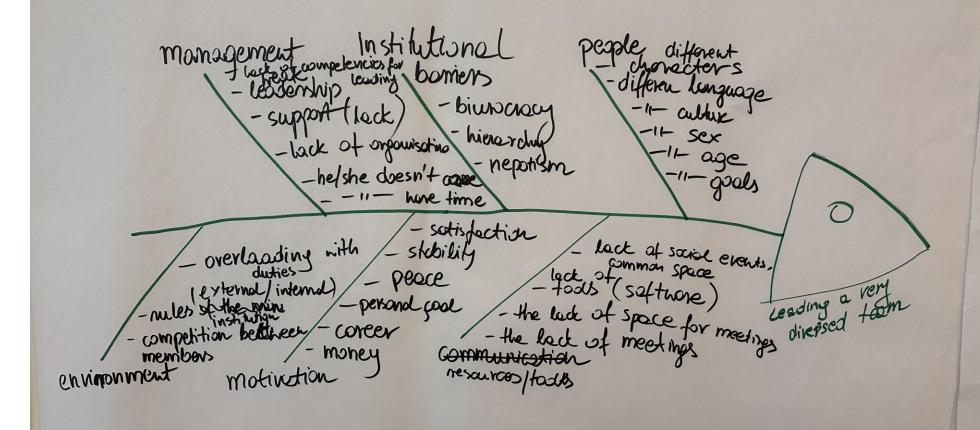


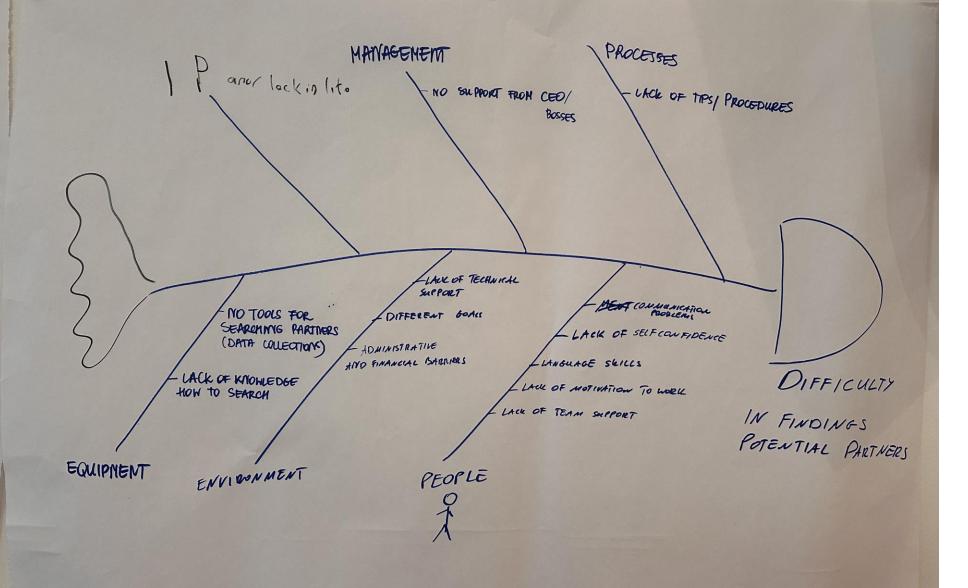












#### WHAT DEMOTIVATES MOTIVATES FAIWRE MONEY (AWARD (EXTRA) PEOPLE (RELATIONS) PEOPLE'S BEVALLIOUS EXTERNAL WEATHER CONDITIONS TO MANN BUTIES - 7055 - COULEAGUES - MEMORINO ROUTINE ATMOSPHERE NEW SITUATION (NEW BORN) BEAUROCRACY LACK OF CONTROL BREATING OF BARRIEDS AUBITION WAITING ACCEPTATION OF MUIDEA FINALIZING 2081 PUBLISHING PAPER SEE ING "BIGPICURE" -> -> MAKE'NG SENSE PROGRESS WORK CONTRIBUTES DOING SOMETHING NEW LEARNING FAILURES

