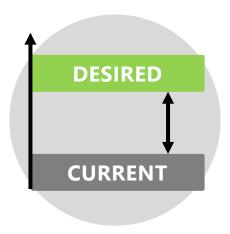
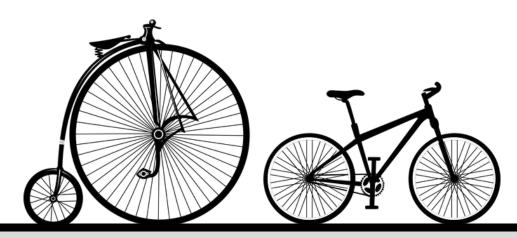
Continuous Improvement Toolkit

GAP ANALYSIS

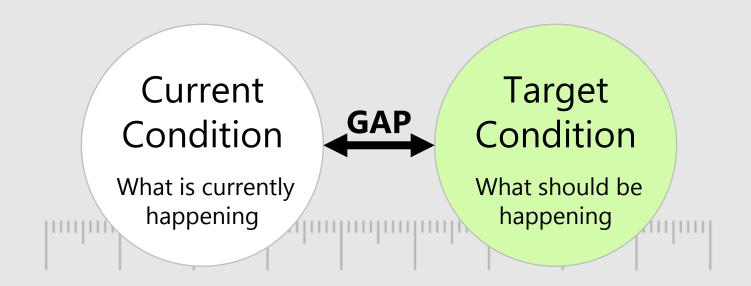


A **gap** is a problem, issue or challenge, and could be an opportunity for improvement.

Gap analysis involves assessing the difference between two things.

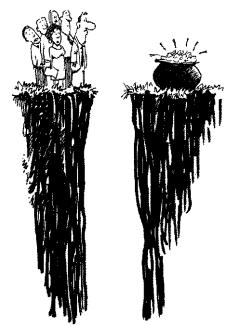


Mainly used to compare two different states of something, the current state and the future state.



For example, it can be used to assess where a company or process is today, where it needs to be in the future, and what needed to be there.

There are many reasons to perform a gap analysis and many ways to perform it.



If you find that your team's skills are lacking, for example, performing gap analysis involves **assessing** the current skills and comparing them to the desired level.



The **difference** between the existing state and the desired state is the gap

There are many **real-life examples** where gap analysis can be applied.



Customers become dissatisfied with a company's customer service.

A hospital is operating under stress as ICU beds are occupied by COVID-19 patients.





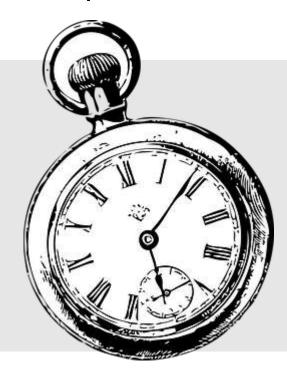
A facility has recently a significant increase in workplace accidents and incidents.

The food and drinks in a restaurant take too long to be served.



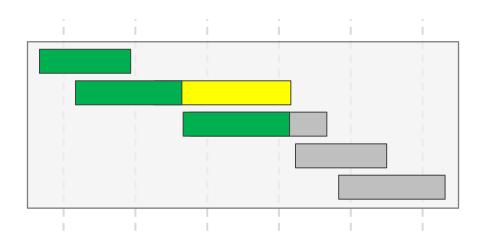
The assessment of the current situation and the desired future state can be both quantitative and qualitative.

It is recommended that you use quantitative **metrics** which are related to the company's primary goals.



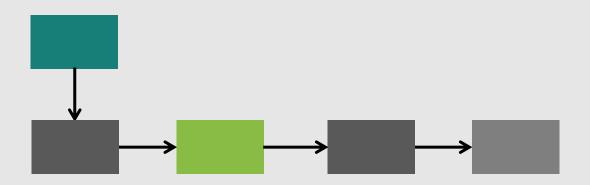
You may use these metrics at any point during the gap analysis process

Once the gap is identified, an **action plan** can be developed to close the gap.



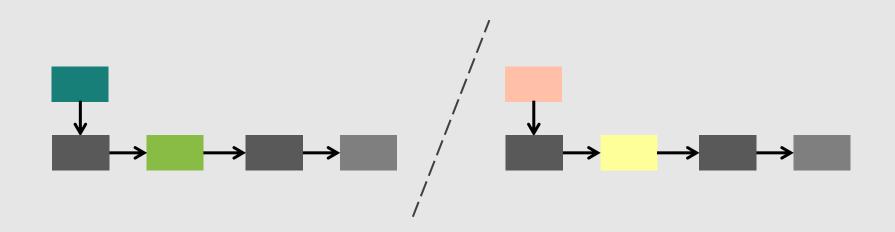
In Process Management

Can be used to address the unsatisfactory performance of a **process**, which allows to determine if the process needs to be simplified, streamlined or redesigned all over again.



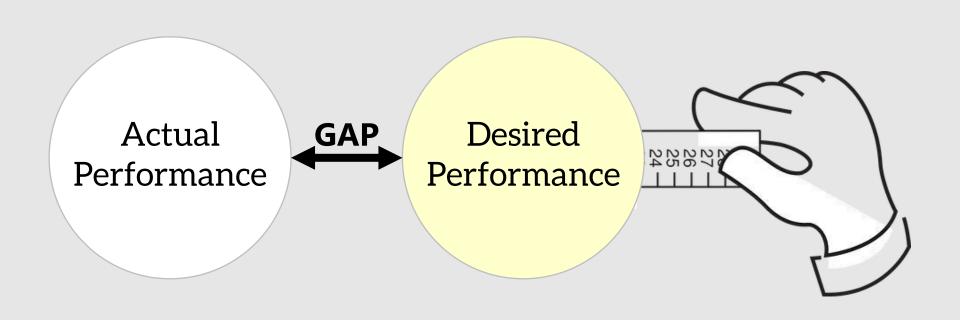
In Process Management

- Useful when comparing an existing process to a process that is performed elsewhere.
- Provides an excellent opportunity to learn from industry leaders.



In Performance Management

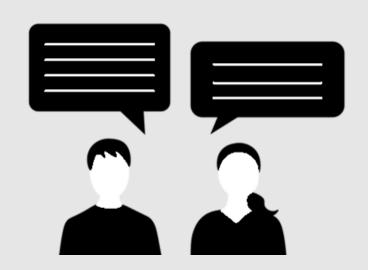
Allows to compares the actual performance of a company against the desired performance.



In Performance Management

Helps to identify areas where a business is performing below quality standards or customer expectations.

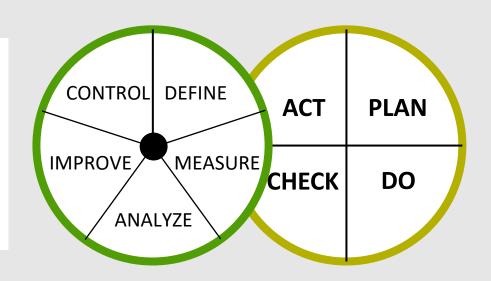
It is important to **involve the customer** in the gap analysis process as they are key to close the gap.



In Project Management

Can be used before starting an improvement project to justify the initiation of the project.

Can also be used at the definition stage of a project which allows to better understand the business case of the problem.

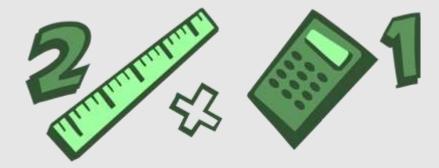


BENEFITS

Brings understanding to the problems and issues faced

Helps selecting the solutions and projects of greatest impact

Indicates potential business opportunities and risks

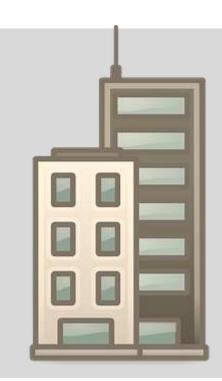


Can be performed at any level of an organization.

Strategic level - comparing the condition of the business with that of the industry

Operational level - comparing the state of the performance with the desire state

Project and process levels

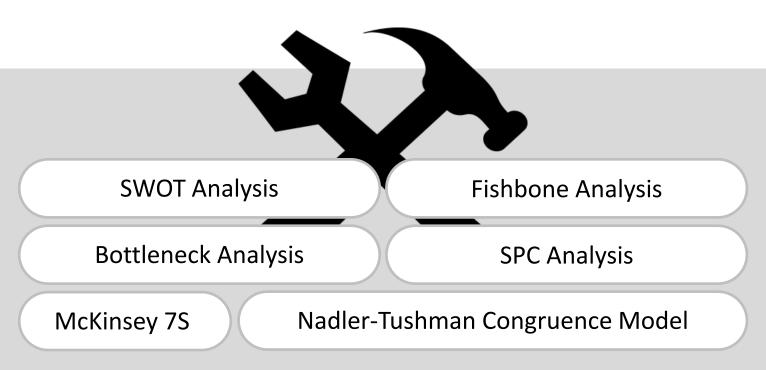


There is **no standard process** to conduct a gap analysis, and it doesn't need complicated methodology or software.

It should be tailored depending on the situation.



Various **tools** and **models** can be used to turn the theory into practice and identify the gaps.



SWOT Analysis – Examine the gap between where a company currently is, where it aims to be in the future.

Fishbone Analysis – Allows to examine different type of factors in a process which may affect the quality of a product or service.

Bottleneck Analysis – Allows to understand the imbalances within a process.

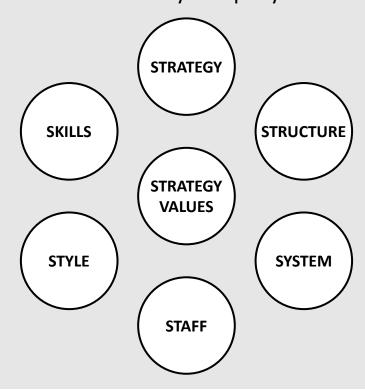
SPC Analysis – Allows to understand how a process has been behaving over a time range.

McKinsey 7S – A framework that provides a way to understand and monitor the gaps and changes of a company.

These elements need to be aligned and mutually reinforcing for the company to perform well.

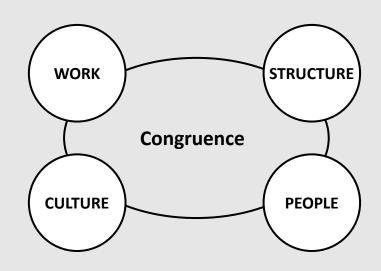
Can be used with the different type of changes; restructuring, merger, change of leadership, change in processes, new systems, etc.

7S refer to key interrelated elements of any company . . .



Nadler-Tushman Congruence Model – Examines the four aspects of that will transform inputs into outputs.

The 'congruence' of all parts working together will make up the company flow.



Gap analysis involves **organizing information** in such a way that allows for proper comparison and analysis.

Such organizing of information can be simply accomplished using a table or chart without the need for a specific theoretical model to be effective.



Data can be collected using any of the following . . .

Records and documentations

Subject Matter Experts

Interviews and focus groups

Observations

Surveys and self-assessment

Brainstorming

Benchmarking



Typical Steps for Conducting a Gap Analysis

Choose a specific **problem** area you need to focus on

Identify your objective and what you are trying to achieve



Typical Steps for Conducting a Gap Analysis

Understand the **current situation** and know where you are standing

Gather as much data as possible to clarify how you are performing at present

Ask questions such as . . .

Is the information documented somewhere?

Who has the knowledge that you need?

What data collection tools that can be used?

Is there is a need to conduct a benchmarking exercise?

Typical Steps for Conducting a Gap Analysis

Identify the desired outcome that need to be achieved

Set SMART goals and make them aligned with your business goals



Typical Steps for Conducting a Gap Analysis

Identify the gap between the two states and analyze the causes

You need to answer why it exists and what you can do about it



Typical Steps for Conducting a Gap Analysis

Agree on the **steps** you need to take to close the gap

Identify the requirements and actions needed to be taken



Example – The Food Takes Too Long to be Served

1. THE PROBLEM

Customers complained that the food takes too long to be served.

2. CURRENT SITUATION

The food takes on average 14 minutes to be served.

3. DESIRED OUTCOME

The food should be served no more than 11 minutes from ordering.

4. THE GAP

More than 3 minutes.

5. ACTIONS / REQUIREMENTS

- Obtain more opinions from customers about their experience.
- Ask employees what would help them provide faster customer service.
- Train employees to provide faster service.

Example – High Spoilage Rate at Line #3

1. THE PROBLEM

High spoilage rate at line #3.

2. CURRENT SITUATION

Spoilage rate is too high according to industry standards (>8%).

3. DESIRED OUTCOME

Spoilage rate should be reduced below industry standards (3%).

4. THE GAP

More than 5%.

5. ACTIONS / REQUIREMENTS

- Improve spoilage measurement system.
- Improve spoilage awareness among employees.
- Focus on areas with the largest number of defects.

Example – Having a Poor External Audit Score

1. THE PROBLEM

The last audit results were negative in all areas.

2. CURRENT SITUATION

External audit score is below expected standards (<60%).

3. DESIRED OUTCOME

External audit score should be above 90%.

4. THE GAP

More than 30%.

5. ACTIONS / REQUIREMENTS

- Improve documentation and control of documents.
- Comply with legal and other requirements.
- Maintain all external and internal communication records.

Example – There is a Significant Increase in Incidents

1. THE PROBLEM

There is a significant increase in workplace incidents.

2. CURRENT SITUATION

Workplace incidents have increased 60% this year.

3. DESIRED OUTCOME

Reduce workplace incidents to be zero.

4. THE GAP

60%.

5. ACTIONS / REQUIREMENTS

- Review and analyze workplace accident and incident reports.
- Investigate the root cause of workplace accidents and incidents.
- Conduct safety training that includes risk assessment and safe work practices.

Made with **by**



CITOOLKIT

The Continuous Improvement Toolkit

www.citoolkit.com

© Copyright Citoolkit.com. All Rights Reserved.