## **Continuous Improvement Toolkit**

## **RACI MATRIX**

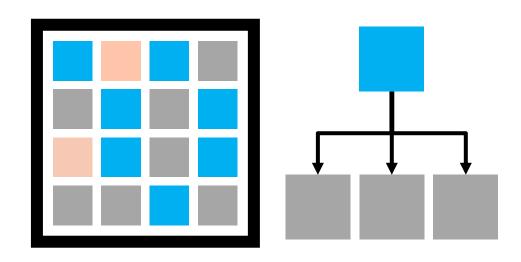


There are many ways to clarify the **responsibilities** and **roles** within a project, business process, or change initiative.

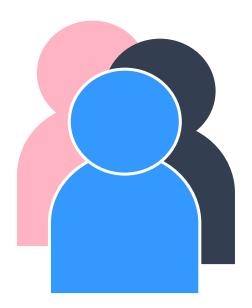


Some prefer to use a hierarchical structure while others prefer to use a matrix-style format such as the RACI matrix.

RACI is an example of a responsibility assignment matrix (RAM).



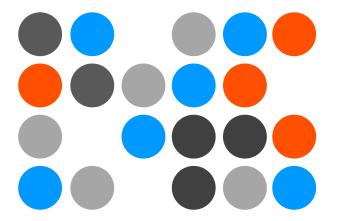
RACI matrix is an effective way of defining roles and responsibilities towards achieving a **common goal**.



A type of stakeholder analysis

It is a matrix-based organization tool that shows how resources are **assigned** to different project or process activities.

It describes the **participation** of the various roles in completing the required activities and deliverables.



When several people work on a particular project, it is easy to **assume** that someone else is taking care of a task or assignment.

I thought she was working on it



I didn't know I was supposed to do it

You may hear many **arguments** which may lead to poor team communication and inefficient operation

The goal is to ensure people have a clear understanding of their responsibilities to avoid miscommunication, duplication, confusion, and wasted time.

For example, when consultation is required before taking a decision, 'consulted' stakeholders should be approached.



#### **BENEFITS**

Provides a clear view of what is expected from each stakeholder and how to communicate with each

Helps identifying who should be approached at any given situation

Reveals issues such as too many responsible persons and not enough communication

Serves as the guiding document that everyone will refer to when needed

Helps avoiding the "too many cooks in the kitchen" situation

RACI is an acronym for the four major **participation types** that stakeholders might play in any project, process or change situation



Consulted



#### RACI answers . . .

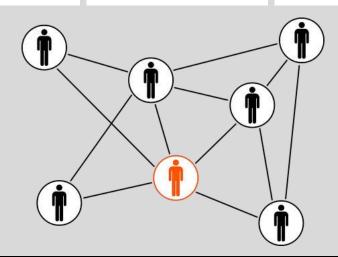
Who is responsible?

Who is accountable?

Are there stakeholders who can be consulted about the activities?

Are there stakeholders needs to be informed about the activities?

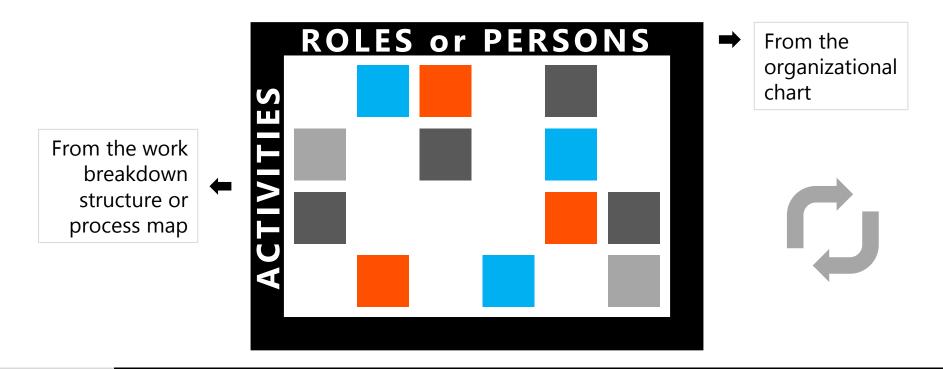
Is there a stakeholder who has too much responsibility?



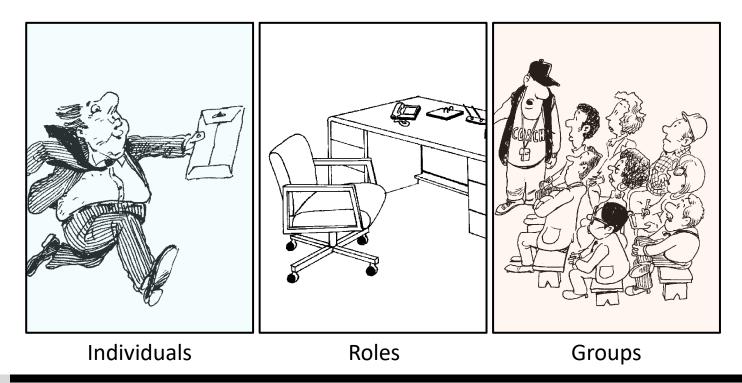
Each key activity in a project or process should be **analyzed** to determine the participation each stakeholder is expected to have.



The roles or persons are plotted along the top of the matrix while the **set of activities** are plotted along the left side of the matrix.



The horizontal axis or top row represents the **assigned resources**, which can be shown as individuals, roles or groups.



## The Four Major Participation Types

Responsible
The actual doer

Accountable
Sign off work

Consulted
Can tell more

Informed
Kept in the picture

# Responsible

Refers to the role or person who should actively participate to accomplish a particular activity

This is the role who owns the activity and actually doing the work

There can be more than one responsible doing each activity, but there should be at least one

The number of responsible persons depends on the activity.

More persons are assigned when the activity needs more

support and assistance



# Accountable

Refers to the role or person who should ensure that the work is completed on time, within budget, and within the required quality standards

He/she may be the direct manager of the responsible or may be the same responsible person when the team is small

There can be only one accountable for each activity, and he or she should be the final approving authority

It is also important that few accountable stakeholders exist on the RACI matrix to avoid confusion over where the authority resides



## Consulted

Refers to the roles or persons who can provide valuable information and guidance to complete the work

They have the knowledge, skills and experience that are needed to complete the work

Their opinion should be taken into account before decision making

However, they should not have the authority to change the work unless explicitly given to them



## **O**nformed

Informed refers to anyone who should be notified of a decision or result when the work is completed

Their work depends on the activity and might be affected by the changes in some way

They has no control over how the work is implemented and don't need to take part in the decision-making process

Keeping them informed is a good way to get their attention and support



#### **How to Create a RACI Matrix**

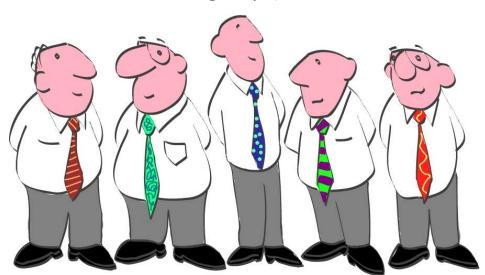
With your team, clearly explain the **purpose** for creating the RACI matrix



#### **How to Create a RACI Matrix**

Identify the **stakeholders** who need to be involved and the main **activities** that need to be performed

Decide on how you are going to represent the stakeholders (individuals, roles or groups)



#### **How to Create a RACI Matrix**

Use a flipchart or whiteboard to construct a two-dimensional matrix

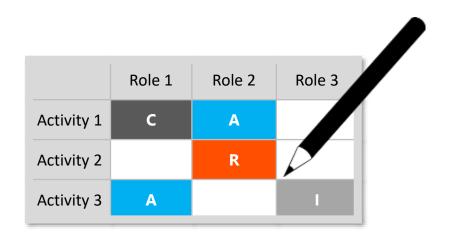
Enter the activities in the left column and the roles or persons in the top row of the matrix

	Role 1	Role 2	Role 3
Activity 1			
Activity 2			
Activity 3			

#### **How to Create a RACI Matrix**

For each activity, **identify** the Responsible, Accountable, Consulted and Informed

Place the appropriate character (R,A,C, or I) at the intersecting cell of the matrix Ensure that there is an accountable and responsible person for each activity



#### **How to Create a RACI Matrix**

Discuss the RACI matrix with the key stakeholders to verify accuracy

Use the RACI matrix as a guiding document throughout the project's lifetime

	Role 1	Role 2	Role 3
Activity 1	С	A	
Activity 2		R	
Activity 3	A		1

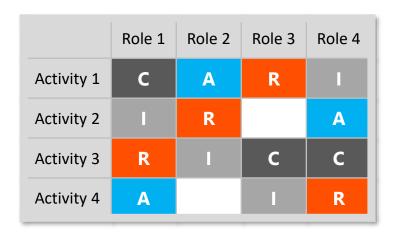
Remember, the assigned resources can be listed as roles, groups or individuals.

	Role 1	Role 2	Role 3
Activity 1			
Activity 2			
Activity 3			
Activity 4			
Activity 5			

	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3
Activity 1			
Activity 2			
Activity 3			
Activity 4			
Activity 5			

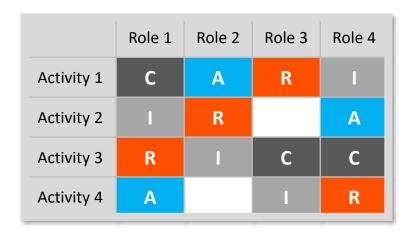
	Person 1	Person 2	Person 3
Activity 1			
Activity 2			
Activity 3			
Activity 4			
Activity 5			

The rows and columns of the matrix can be **swapped** so that the rows become the columns, and vice versa.



	Activity 1	Activity 2	Activity 3	Activity 4
Role 1	С	1	R	A
Role 2	Α	R	1	
Role 3	R		С	
Role 4	1	Α	С	R

You can also map the activities with the RACI categories, listing the roles, groups or individuals in the table.



	R	Α	С	1
Activity 1	Role 3	Role 2	Role 1	Role 4
Activity 2	Role 2	Role 4		Role 1
Activity 3	Role 1		Roles (3,4)	Role 2
Activity 4	Role 4	Role 1		Role 3

## **Example** – Assigning Individuals to a Project

	Adam	Ali	Emir	Peter	Sara	Nermin
Collect data	A		C	R		1
Analyze data	A			R	С	
Order parts	С	A				R
Install parts	1	A	R	C		1
Test		A	R			
Document	Α	1	I		С	R

## Example – Acquiring New Equipment Business Process

		Business unit	IT	Finance	Purchasing	Purchasing committee
	1 Define needs	R	C			Α
	2 Technical review		R			С
SC	3 Complete paperwork	R		C	С	Α
Steps	4 Acquire equipment		1		R	A
Process	5 Follow-up with the supplier		C		R	
Pr	6 Issue payment			R		
	7 Configure and install		R			
	8 Receive and use	R	С			

## **Example** – Assigning Six Sigma Roles & Responsibilities

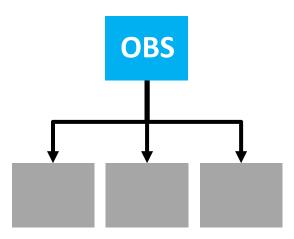
	Executive team	Sponsor	Process owner	Steering committee	МВВ	BB/GB
Implement roadmaps	Α		R		C	
Identify and select projects	1	A	С	R	1	1
Implement projects		A	С		C	R
Track and monitor projects		A	1	R	C	1
Maintain operational gains	1		R	A	1	
Monitor overall progress	A		1	R	C	
Coach and mentor	Α		1	С	R	

## **Example** – Assigning Six Sigma Projects

		Sponsor1	Sponsor2	MBB1	MBB2	BB1	BB2	BB3	GB1
	Project #3114	A		С		С		R	
	Project #3175	A		C	C				R
	Project #3130		A	C			R		
	Project #3034	A	C			R	C		
•	Project #3099	A			C			R	R
	Project #3157		A	C	C	R			R
	Project #3103		A		C		R		
	Project #3219	C	A			R		C	
	Project #3015	A		C	C			R	
	Project #3123	A		C					R
	Project #3208		Α	С		С	R		

**Further Information** 

An **Organizational Breakdown Structure** (OBS) is another way that helps clarify roles and responsibilities.



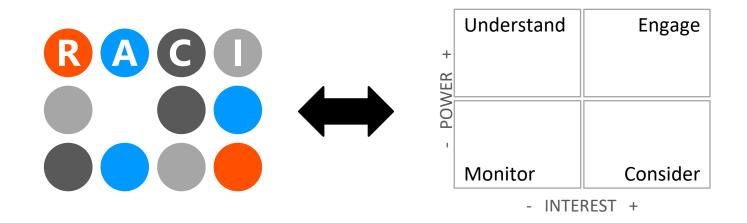
**Further Information** 

It should be dealt with as a **live document** during the project lifetime.



#### **Further Information**

Can be linked with other project management tools such as the **power/interest matrix**.



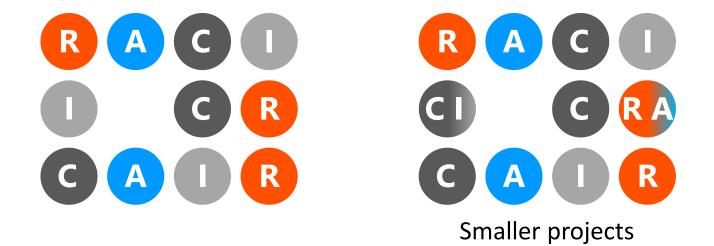
#### **Further Information**

A variation is the RASCI matrix where 'S' refers to the Support category in terms of providing the necessary resources and other forms of support during the project implementation or process operation.



#### **Further Information**

It is recommended that each activity receives **only one** of the RACI categories at most (except in the case of small projects).



Made with **by** 



## **CITOOLKIT**

The Continuous Improvement Toolkit

www.citoolkit.com

© Copyright Citoolkit.com. All Rights Reserved.