



2022
Annual **INCOSE**
international workshop
HYBRID EVENT
Torrance, CA, USA
Jan 29 - Feb 1, 2022

Premier Systems Engineering Workshop

Spending time defining a problem is time well spent

What's your problem?

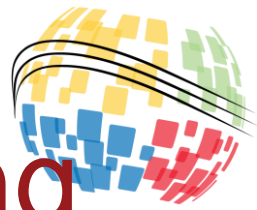
Ceca Mijatovic – Cecasphere Inc. | [in cecam](#)

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Typical Program without Problem Modeling



How the customer explained it



How the project leader understood it



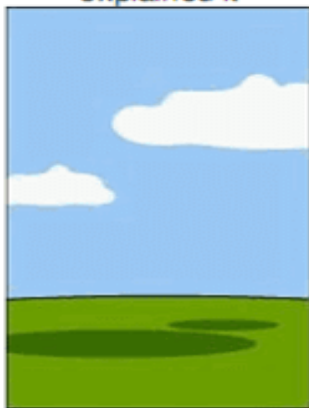
How the engineer designed it



How the programmer wrote it



How the sales executive described it



How the project was documented



What operations installed



How the customer was billed

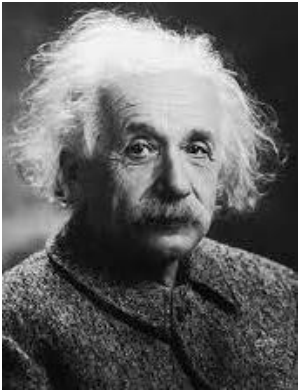


How the helpdesk supported it



What the customer really needed





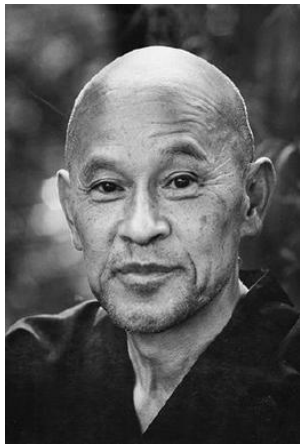
If I had an hour to solve a problem I'd spend
55 minutes thinking about the problem and
5 minutes thinking about solutions.

Albert Einstein





1 Embrace the Unknown



In the beginner's mind there are many possibilities; in the expert's mind there are few.

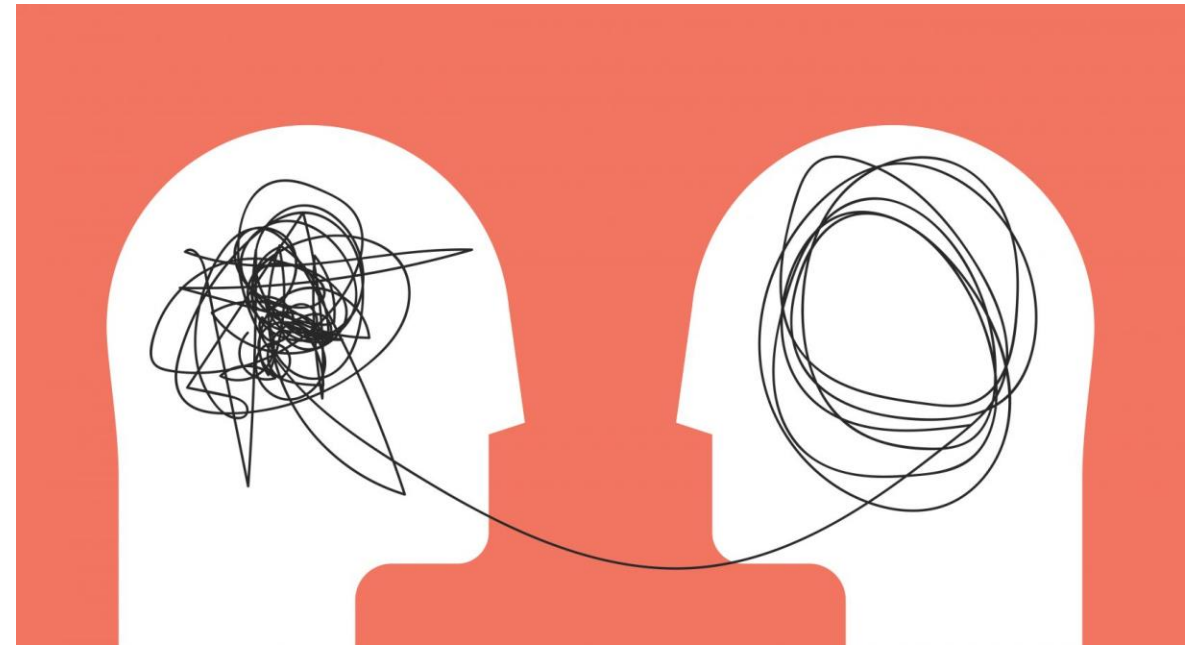
Shunryu Suzuki



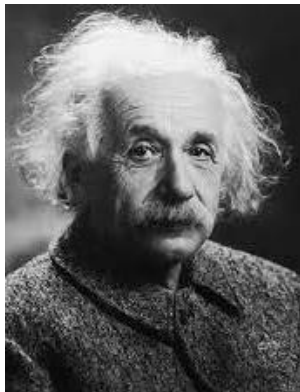


1 Embrace the Unknown

- Foster Curiosity
- Approach with Playfulness
- Listen Actively



2 Strive for Simplicity



Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler.

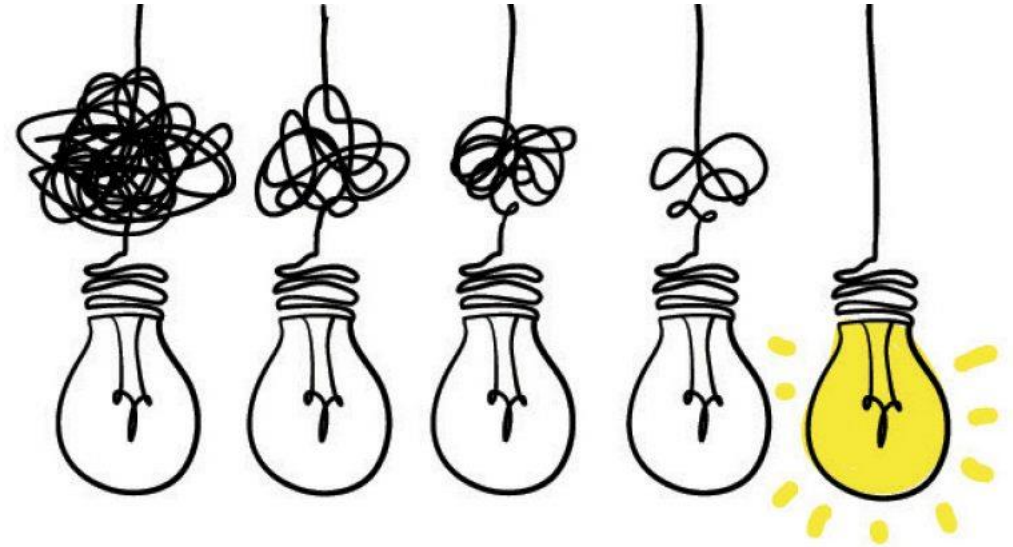
Albert Einstein





2 Strive for Simplicity

- Deductive Reasoning
- Recognize Patterns
- Raise the Abstraction Level





3 Know the Context



Without context words and actions have no meaning at all.

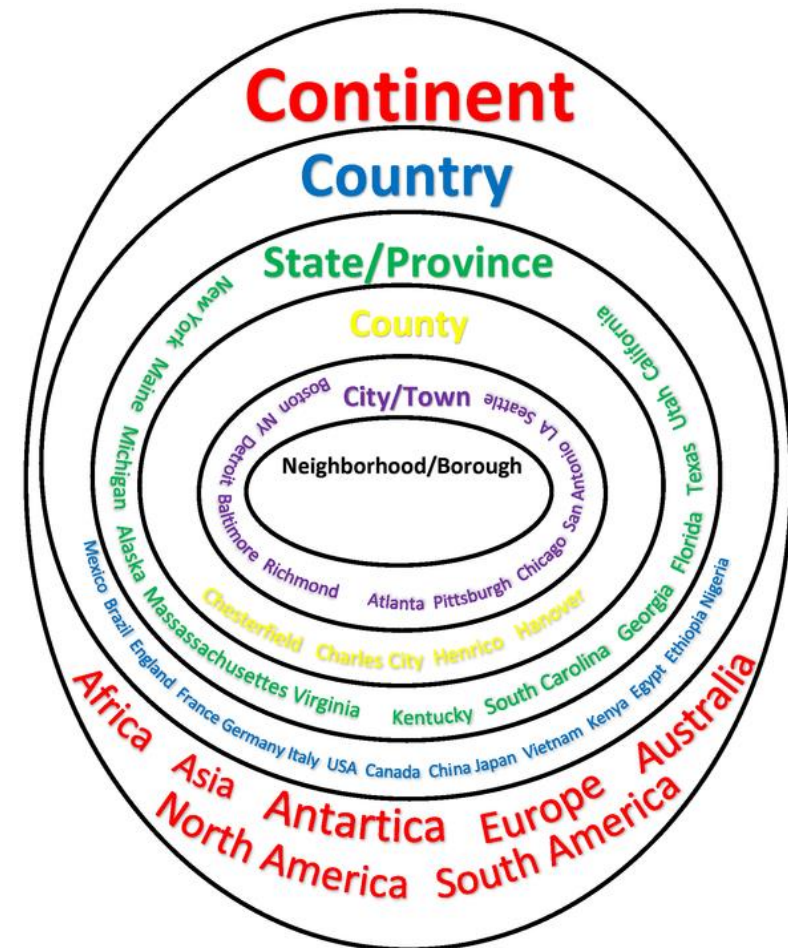
Gregory Bateson





3 Know the Context

- Study Context
- Grasp Context's Context
- Explore Context Evolution





In Summary

A problem-focused approach allows us to capture the principles that underscore causation and it facilitates breakthrough solutions.

Seize the problem domain by:

1. Embracing the Unknown
2. Striving for Simplicity
3. Knowing the Context

Problem-focused approach makes it possible to circumvent the intermediate fix and leap into the aspired solution.





A problem well stated is
a problem half-solved.

Charles Kettering





About Presenter

Ceca Mijatovic has 24 years of strategy consulting and IT experience in successful delivery of profit-driven technology and professional services solutions. She is a quality, value, and results driven executive with expertise in envisioning and leading cross-organizational technology initiatives. Fast-track management career marked by dynamic leadership, strategic planning, process design, and technology innovation, implementation, and change management. Valued member of senior executive teams, contributing broad vision and perspective toward creation and implementation of Business and Technology strategies via MBSE, designed for maximum value and investment return.



Ceca is also a certified life coach and helps women with cancer heal and transform their lives by using cancer as a powerful catalyst for change. She holds a BA in Applied Mathematics, and is currently pursuing PhD in Systems Engineering. For more details visit [Ceca's LinkedIn profile](#).





References

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