

Futures wheel

A diagram that places a change at the center and, in rings, its direct consequences, the consequences of those consequences, and so on.

In Spanish

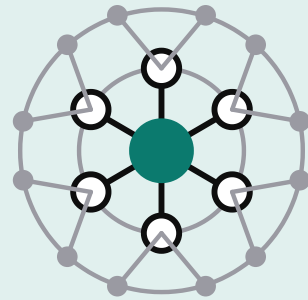
Rueda de futuros

Origin

Glenn (1972)

Output

A diagram of the consequences of a change, in rings



What it's for

Helps reveal second-order effects that are not visible at first glance.

Key elements

A change at the center

Specific and well phrased.

Rings

First what is direct; then what that leads to.

As a group

Several perspectives find more effects.

How it's done

1



Write the change at the center.

2



Add the direct consequences.

3



Continue with the indirect ones.

Applications in design

✓ When to use it

Before launching a change, to anticipate unintended effects.

✗ Avoid

Stopping at the first ring.

👁 Don't fall for it

Mark which consequences are likely and which are only possible.

Connections

Builds on

■ Futures cone

■ Weak signals

Related to

■ Mind map

■ Scenario planning

Authors and works

1972

Jerome C. Glenn

Devised it as a structured brainstorm about the consequences of a change.

Sources

Original sources

- Glenn, J. C. (1972). Futurizing teaching vs. futures course. Social Science Record, 9(3).

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