

Systems Thinking for Leadership Cheat Sheet

Everything in any system is working perfectly to get the results that it is currently getting. To change an outcome, one must change a behavior or process within any system and create a feedback loop to monitor implementation. Reflect on the common Systems Pitfalls and Solutions to make your next initiative successful.

Common Systems Pitfalls	Possible Solutions
Focusing on the outcome and not the behaviors that produce the outcome.	Identify and track lead behaviors that produce positive outcomes.
Not knowing the current state of the system.	Collect data routinely to know the current state of your system.
Having delays or waiting too long in getting feedback on the system.	Create a regular feedback loop (high impact meeting and time) to understand the system and track behaviors.
Putting the people with low will or skill in positions of responsibility or influence.	Put the best people in the most precarious system situations until the system is where you want it to be.