

# Design thinking and innovation planning

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UNIVERSITÀ DI MILANO-BICOCCA



What do you expect from this module?





How often do you deal with issues related to innovation in your professional life?





How would you assess your creativity on a scale from 1 to 10?



## Our agenda for the module

# February 25th 2022

- What is innovation and how can it be planned?
- Design thinking workshop

# Follow-up activity

- Design thinking self study module
- (3 hours)

# March 10th 2022

 Team activity presentation

# Questions?



How can I innovate? Decisions and implementation Do we have to innovate? What is Organizational innovation? architecture? WE **INNOVATE** WE DON'T **KEEP** When is the What is right time to **CALM** innovation innovate? management? How can I Innovation is a novel: proposition innovate Innovation is continuous change: learning to collaborate Innovation generates payback



### Do we have to innovate?

- The Entrepreneurial Process Consists of Four Steps
  - Step 1: Deciding to start something new.
  - Step 2: Developing successful ideas
  - Step 3: Moving from an idea to an entrepreneurial firm.
  - Step 4: Managing and developing your activity as the entrepreneurial firm.



YES!!

NEW PRODUCTS
NEW INDUSTRIES
NEW MARKETS
But how?

### Do we have to innovate?

- «Innovation management is really just a form of looking into the future, being creative and imaginative so that you can carve out a new niche before your competitors.»
- «Business must look ahead, not behind. It's not just the big companies that need to do this. Every business must innovate to compete.»
- «Innovation Management is about more than just planning new products, services, brand extensions, or technology inventions. It's about imagining, mobilizing and competing in new ways.»
- «Innovative companies attracts and keeps better management talent»
- «Innovative companies are traded at a premium price»
- «Major competitors in important markets are investing heavily in innovation.
   We need to react to them.»



# What is innovation?



### What is innovation?

#### Innovation is...

- ...doing something better than before.
- ...doing something differently than before.
- ...doing something that has never been done before.

...find new solution to new needs.



- see connections between «things»;
- identify new spaces;
- anticipate changes;
- take advantage from opportunities.

### What is innovation?

- To be considered an innovation, a process or an outcome must meet three criteria:
  - novelty
  - improvement
  - usefulness
- Four distinct **elements of innovation**:
  - 1. process of innovating
  - 2. product or invention itself
  - 3. diffusion or adoption of the innovation
  - 4. value created by the innovation

GENERATION

### COUNTRIES THAT AVOID UNCERTAINTY ARE LESS INNOVATIVE AND HAVE MORE BUREAUCRACY

Comparing national scores on indices and rankings of innovation, bureaucracy, and culture.

	UNCERTAINTY AVOIDANCE The Hofstede Centre Index	INNOVATION European Commission Index	BUREAUCRACY World Bank Ranking	
Greece	100	38	61	
Portugal	99	41	25	
Belgium	94	63	42	
Slovenia	88	51	51	
Spain	86	41	33	
France	86	57	31	
Italy	75	44	56	
Czech Rep.	74	42	44	
Austria	70	60	21	
Germany	65	71	14	
Estonia	60	50	17	
Finland	59	68	9	
Netherlands	53	63	27	
Ireland	35	61	13	
U.K.	35	61	8	
Sweden	29	75	11	
Denmark	23	73	4	

### Innovation is not...

...necessarily revolutionary.



But can be disruptive....



# What is innovation? Different concepts of innovation

**Low Novelty** 

**High Novelty** 

# Increment al innovation

doing what we do, but better

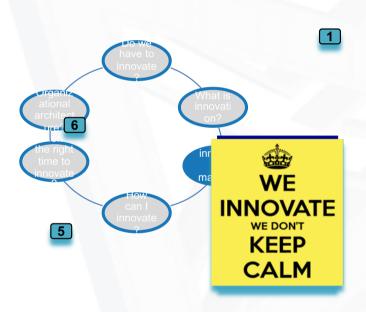
# Radical Innovation

doing something differently

# What is innovation? Different types of innovation

How the product/service is created, produced and delivered.

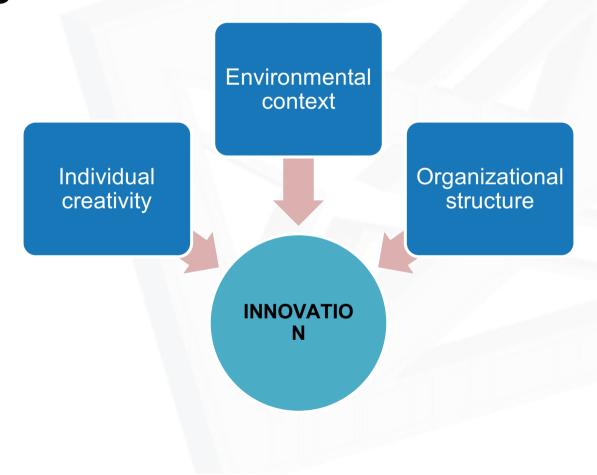




## Is creativity/innovation innate or can it be nurtured?



# What is innovation management? Innovation enabling factors



# What is innovation management? Innovation sources: creativity

#### Ability to produce new and useful ideas

#### From a PERSON depends on:

own principles and values;

intellectual abilities;

knowledge;

forma mentis;

personality;

motivations and inspirations;

environment;

# From an ORGANIZATION depends on:

Creativity of its members;

Social processes that shape how members behave and:

Incentives for ideas expression

**Training** 

Organization culture

# What is innovation management? Innovation from individuals

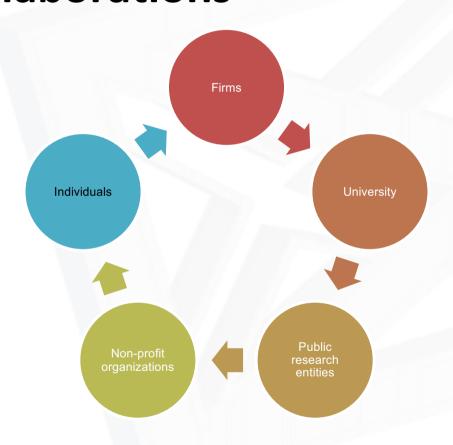
#### Inventors

- Good knowledge of the sector where they operate
- Knowledge of multiple fields/sectors
- Curiosity and interest for problems (more than for solutions)
- Critics towards dominant thoughts
- Orientation to knowledge integration
- Search for global solutions, instead of particular solutions
- "Generalist" approach

#### Users

- Deep understanding of needs
- Direct involvement in the use of the good
- Strong incentive for improvement
- Wanted or casual proposal of alternative solutions that best answer to their needs

# What is innovation management? Innovation sources: collaborations



# Who are the three companies that you consider as most innovative?



### The most innovative companies of 2021

Ra	-	 -	_	
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- Apple
- Alphabet
- 3 Amazon
- Microsoft
- 5 Tesla
- 6 Samsung
- 7 IBM
- 8 Huawei
- Sony
- 10 Pfizer

#### Rank: 11-20

- Siemens
- OB LO
- Facebook
- Alibaba
- Oracle
- 16 Dell
- T Cisco
- 18 Target
- 49 HF
- 20 Johnson & Johnson

#### Rank: 21-30

- 21 Toyota
- 22 Salesforce
- 23 Walmart
- 24 Nike
- 25 Lenovo
- 26 Tencent
- Procter & Gamble
- 23 Coca-Cola
- Abbott Labs
- 30 Bosch

#### Rank: 31-40

- Xiaomi
- 32 IKEA
- 33 Fast Retailing
- Adidas
- 35 Merck & Co.
- 36 Novartis
- Bbay Ebay
- PepsiCo
- 39 Hyundai
- 40 SAP

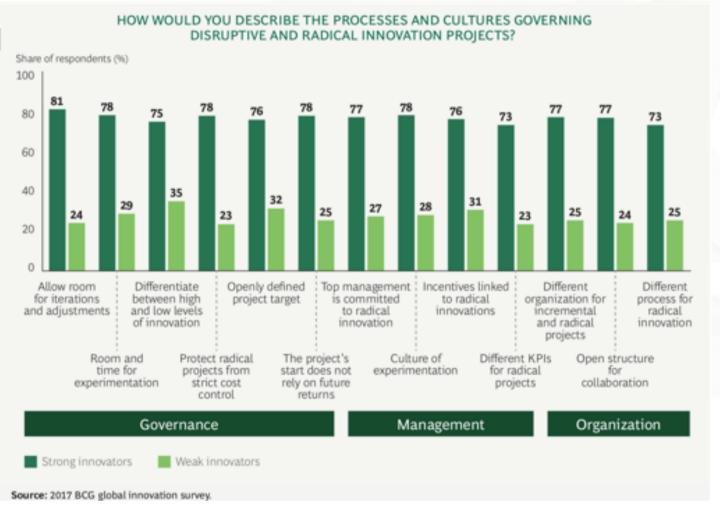
#### Rank: 41-50

- 41 Inditex
- 42 Moderna
- 43 Philips
- Disney
- 45 Mitsubishi
- 46 Comcast
- GE
- Roche
- AstraZeneca
- 50 Bayer

Source: BCG Global Innovation Survey 2020 and 2021.

# 3 trong Innovators Are Much More Likely Than Weak Ones to Have Processes and

Cult





# What you need



#### **ICEBREAKER**

https://app.mural.co/t/management4692/m/management4692/1645771256903/a6c106ee1bf21aec32f84f72359097325e7903e7?sender=elisabettamarafioti2123

# Goals of the workshop

1. Reflect on the how to design innovative research proposals

4. Work in teams to identify shared solutions

2. Translate your daily research experience in challenges to write innovative research proposal

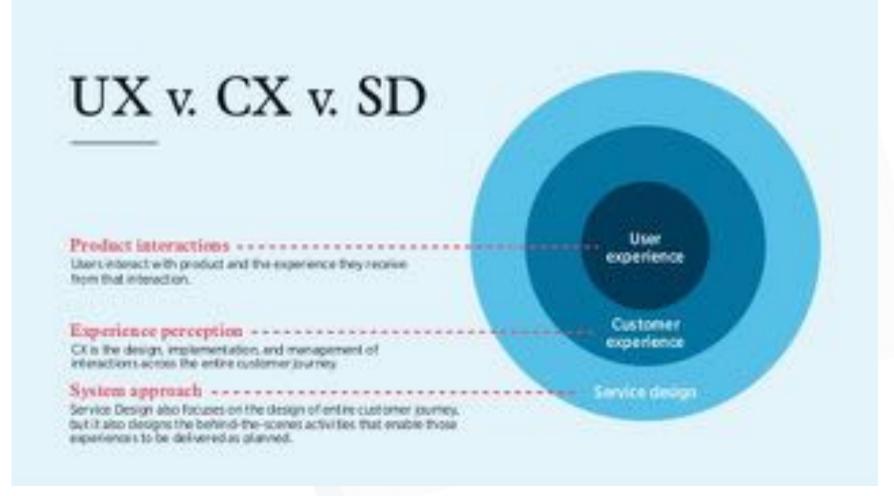
3. Identify shared innovation paths

# What is design?

- "a drawing or set of drawings showing how a building or product is to be made and how it will work and look"
- "the art of making plans or drawings for something"
- "the art of making plans or drawings for so"mething
   Cambridge Dictionary
- il designer è un progettista dotato di senso estetico, che lavora per la comunità/the designer is a personer with aesthetic sense, which works for the community
  Bruno Munari



# What is design?



# What is design?



«nobody knows everything, everyone knows something» Pierre Levy





- Methodology developed in 2000 by Stanford University, to increase the capacity of organizations to make decisions
- Identify innovative directions, strategies and solutions to deal with complex problems
- Starts from the actor (user / client / operator) to detect needs and add value to both the organization and the end user ("user-centric" method).
- Get to the result through a structured 5-step method.
- Work in a team and develop ideas through collaboration.
- Main benefits:

- >> Improves the ability to make decisions,
- Create a culture of innovation,
- Create a positive and proactive environment



# **Examples of Design Thinking application**



#### **Diagnostic Equipment Manufacturer - Product Design**

Transformation of the machinery for the diagnostic examination (CAT) to make the experience more pleasant for children



I CASI project (European Commission) - Citizens 'Visions for a Sustainable Future

I Identification of research objectives for sustainable development, included in the Strategic I Programming of the European Commission (2020-2040)



#### **SMARTUP Master - Assessment of future entrepreneurs**

Ideation and development of business ideas and evaluation of candidates in the selection phase



#### ATS Bergamo - Innovation of services

Redesign of services through the enhancement of new digital technologies and the adoption of new organizational approaches

### Where we start from



### Bicocca RESEARCH

Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca febbraio 2022



The calls for Missions represent an excellent opportunity for all teachers and researchers from the various areas of our University to create or participate in international, competitive and multidisciplinary networks ... G.Cavaletti e S.Torrisi



climate change', nel 2022 si concentrerà climatico e per identificare le lacune rimanenti in queste aree. Fornirà

conoscenze e dati all'avanguardia sugli impatti climatici e sui rischi connessi; supporterà lo sviluppo e la sperimentazione di soluzioni in grado di affrontare uno o più dei sistemi identificati come chiave per la costruzione della resilienza climatica e dimostrare soluzioni, tra cui sostenere le aree costiere nel percorso verso la neutralità e la resilienza climatica, proteggendo contestualmente le acque.



La Mission 'Cancer' intende unire gl sforzi di tutti i Paesi europei mirando alla prevenzione: a quella primaria. cercando di cambiare gli stili di vita individuali, a quella secondaria. cercando di educare i cittadini agli

screening e a quella primordiale, cercando di ridurre al minimo i potenziali fattori di rischio per la salute. Tutto questo per ridurre i malati di cancro, anticipare le diagnosi, migliorare la qualità della vita dei malati e sostenere gli stessi malati anche dopo le terapie. L'obiettivo audace e stimolante della Mission Cancer sta tutto nel suo slogan "Cancer, mission possible", cioè di salvare 2 milioni di vite entro il 2027. La Commissione prevede inoltre azioni a sostegno della creazione di una rete di infrastrutture dedicate alla prevenzione e cura del Cancro con un focus sull'integrazione dei dati della ricerca. Nel campo della qualità della vita, la Commissione vuole sostenere la creazione dell'European Cancer Patient Digital Center; è prevista la creazione di un National Cancer Mission Hub per supportare il monitoraggio dell'attuazione della Mission, con il coinvolgimento anche dei cittadini tramite iniziative di comunicazione e informazione.



La Mission 'Restore our Ocean, seas and waters by 2030', nella prima fase di "sviluppo e pilotaggio" (2022-2025), prevede attività di ricerca e innovazione per gettare le basi per l'attuazione dei suoi tre obiettivi principali: i) Proteggere

e ripristinare gli ecosistemi marini, d'acqua dolce

In particolare, la Mission 'Adaptation to l'inquinamento per aria, acqua e suolo; iii) Rendere l'economia blu sostenibile e carbon neutral, nonché circolare, in linea con la proposta di legge europea sul clima e la visione olistica racchiusa nella Comunicazione per una Blue Economy Sostenibile. Attività di ricerca e innovazione sosterranno soluzioni trasformative e innovative da testare e convalidare. al fine di generare nuova conoscenza e osservazioni. Nella fase successiva invece di "sviluppo e upscaling" (2026-2030), le soluzioni saranno ulteriormente sviluppate, ampliate e poste in essere.



La Mission 'Climate neutral and smart cities' provade topic dedicati a "Sostenere la transizione verso la neutralità climatica all'interno delle città che mirino a rafforzare i servizi e a

sostenere la creazione di reti nazionali e internazionali che promuovano modelli collaborativi di governance locale. Altri topic sono dedicati a "Ricerca e Azioni di innovazione a sostegno dell'attuazione delle Città Intelligenti e Climaticamente Neutrali", che supportano approcci innovativi alla pianificazione urbana integrata e alla progettazione, con dimostrazioni su larga scala di distretti a energia pulita positiva, rafforzando l'innovazione e l'inclusività del trasporto pubblico e della mobilità urbana, nonché creando piattaforme per coordinare la dimensione internazionale della Mission.

azioni finanziate favoriranno anche coinvolgimento di cittadini, autorità nazionali, regionali e locali e altri stakeholder delle città, oltre che l'integrazione dell'innovazione sociale e dei servizi digitali, sicuri e di facile utilizzo.



Infine la Mission 'Soil health and food' richiede che tutti ali stakeholder e le parti sociali nel loro insieme lungo tutta la catena del valore, compresi gli agricoltori, i gestori del territorio, le industrie, i consumatori e

società in generale riconoscano l'ampio valore sociale ed ecologico dei suoli e contribuiscano attivamente all'utilizzo di pratiche rispettose del suolo, anche attraverso le scelte dei consumatori. Molte delle azioni che mirano alla salute del suolo e la biodiversità, in linea con la Strategia dell'UE hanno un impatto diretto sugli obiettivi di tutte le sulla biodiversità 2030; iii) Prevenire ed eliminare altre missioni: per esempio la presenza del carbonio l'inquinamento dei nostri oceani, mari e acque, in nel suolo è importante per la mitigazione del clima linea con l'azione dell'UE che mira ad azzerare (Missione di adattamento climatico), la gestione

#### Where we start from

 https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-andinnovation/funding/funding-opportunities/fundingprogrammes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/eu-missionshorizon-europe en https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/l P 21 4747

## Ispiration from your life as a researcher

- What are the areas of research where you can innovate?
- Which are your favourite research topics/research projects you are responsible for/working on and which do you believe could be eligible for 5 missions?
- Which contribution, which impact should they generate?
- Which challenges to be addressed and possible solutions to develop your research as an internationally funded proposal?

## Define your challenge

- Think about your last experiences in designing a research proposal:
  - What is the main challenge you face in managing innovative reserach proposals?
  - What are emerging needs and desires?
  - What are the main problems to be solved based on your experience?
- Think about a challenge you would like to face within one of the 5 Horizon Europe Missions and write it on a post-it on our padlet (remember to add your name to it) (max 5 minutes):
  - https://padlet.com/elisabetta\_marafioti/DesignThinking

## Choose ideas/challenges

1. Present the challenge hang it on the Padlet in 30 seconds

2. Vote the challenges you would like to work on today. You only have two likes!

3. Let's choose the challenges that have aroused the greatest interest together.

Let's split up into groups and get to work! :)

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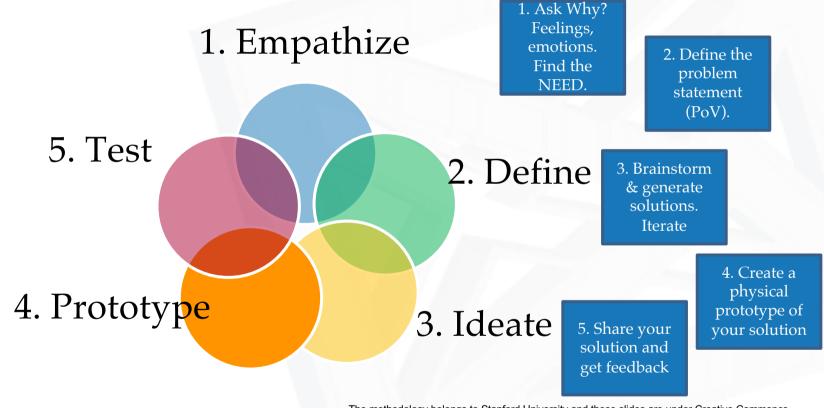
## What you need



#### **SHARE AND VOTE**

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## Design thinking in a nutshell



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## **Empathize and define**

### **Empathize**

**Observe** 



**Immerse** 



Picture: Peter Mason Taxi Getty Images





Interview users/researchers.

Utilize provided tools and forms.

Capture stories, feelings & emotions.

Ask WHY?

Facilitators will keep the time and guides you through this phase.



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## **Empathise: Interviews**

1a. First interview

4 minutes

Notes from the first interview

1b. Second interview

4 minutes

Notes from the second interview



b

Change roles and repeat

Change roles and repeat



## **Empathise: Interviews**

1c. Third interview

4 minutes

Notes from the third interview

1d. Fourth interview

4 minutes

Notes from the fourth interview

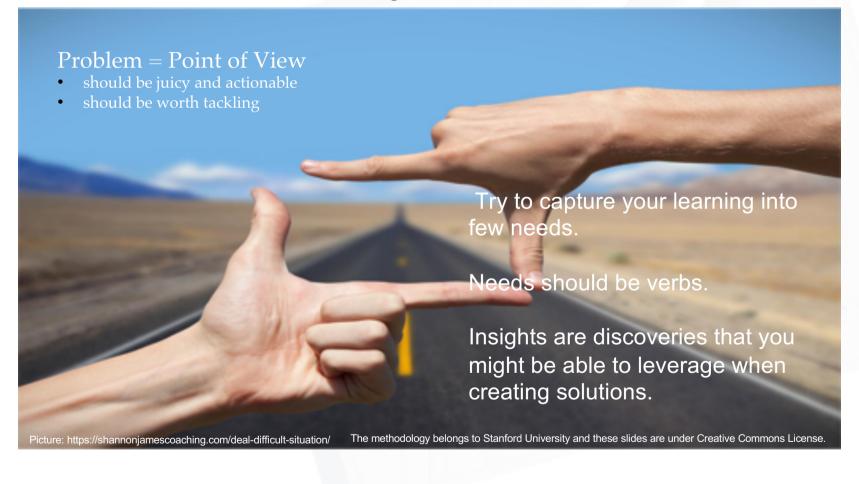
...change interviewers

Change roles and repeat

Change roles and repeat



## Define: Reframe the problem





#### **Define**

Reframe the problem with the help of steps

- 2 Capture findings individually
- 3 Define problem statement in teams

Facilitator will keep the time and guides you through this phase.



#### **Define**

#### 2. Capture findings

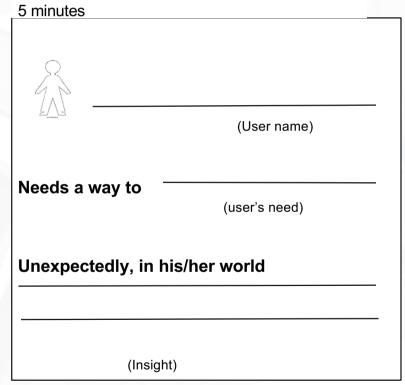
4 minutes

**needs**: things they are trying to do (use verbs)

insights: new learnings about your
partner's feelings /worldview to leverage
in your design

(make inferences from what you heard)

#### 3. Define problem statement





## Define: Synthesize needs & insights



#### **Define**

#### 2. Capture findings

4 minutes

needs: things they are trying to do (use verbs)

insights: new learnings about your
partner's feelings /worldview to leverage
in your design

(make inferences from what you heard)

## 3. Define problem statement 5 minutes

(User name)

Needs a way to

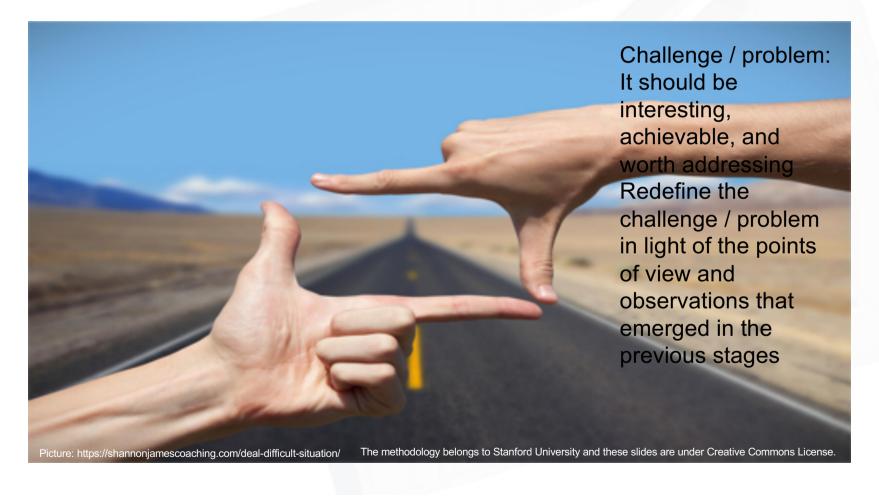
(user's need)

Unexpectedly, in his/her world

(Insight)



## Define: Reframe the problem





#### Riformulate the initial challenge

4. The new challenge (5 minutes)

**((** 

**>** 



In teams

## **Define: Write your POV**

- Present your challenge and collect feedbacks
- 3 minutes for team presentation + 2 minutes for discussion



Ideate +
Prototype +
Test

#### **Ideate**



Brainstorm!
Utilize e.g.
post-its, etc.



Develop multiple options! Fail early and cheaply! Failing is a great opportunity to learn.

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#### Ideate

Generate alternatives and iterate with the help of steps

5 Sketch radical ways to meet your user's need.

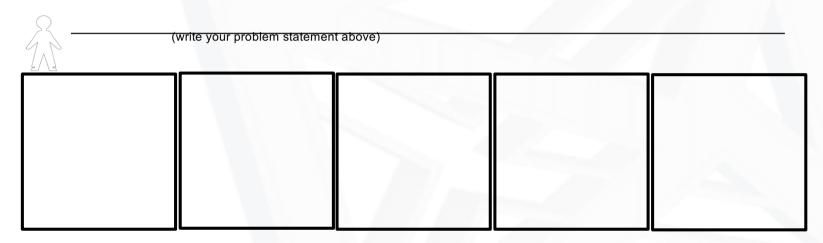
6 Share your solutions with and capture feedback from other team members.

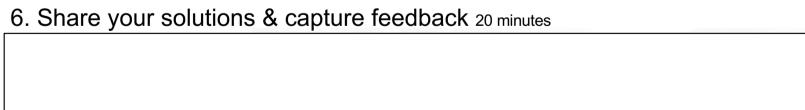
7 Reflect and generate a new solutions in teams.



## Ideate: generate alternatives to test

5. Sketch 3-5 radical ways to meet your user's needs. 15 minutes





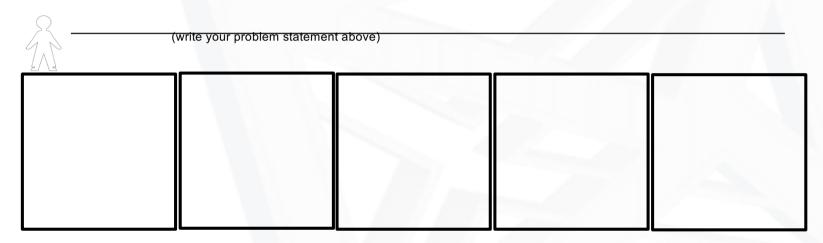


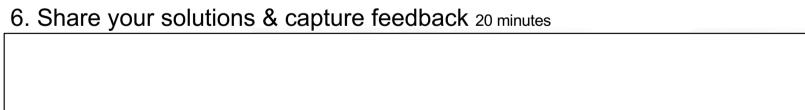
## **Ideate: Sketch five solutions**



## Ideate: generate alternatives to test

5. Sketch 3-5 radical ways to meet your user's needs. 15 minutes







## Test – Team members share and gives feedback on sketches



#### **Iterate based on feedback**

- 7. Reflect & generate a new solution
- 5 minutes

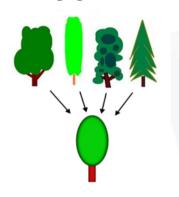
Sketch your big idea, note details if necessary



## Iterate: revise your sketch



## **Prototype & test**



- 1. Build prototype of your solution. Use provided materials.
- 2. Test it. Collect real feedback from potential end-users for your prototype. Go outside the campus!
- 3. Iterate & refine your PoV and prototype based on the feedback.







## **Prototype and test**

Generate alternatives and iterate with the help of steps

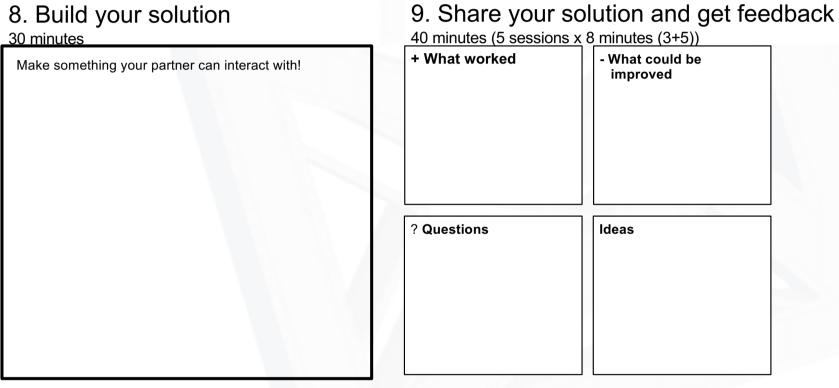
8 Build your solution in teams.

9 Share your solution and get feedback (outside the classroom) in teams.

Facilitator will keep the time and guides you through this phase.

#### **Build and Test**

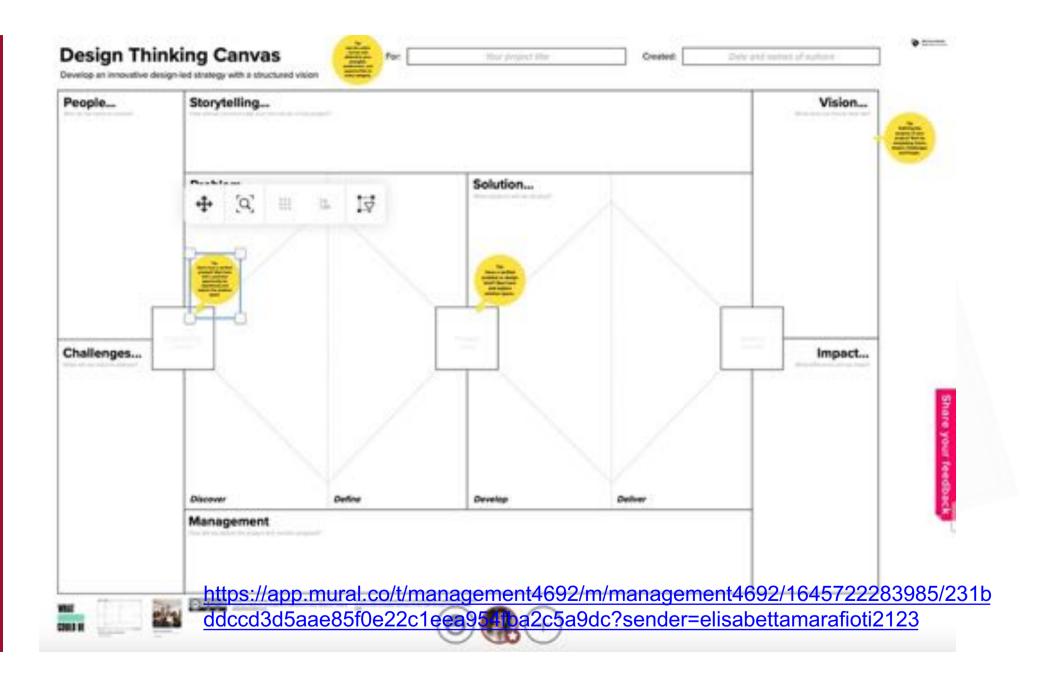
8. Build your solution





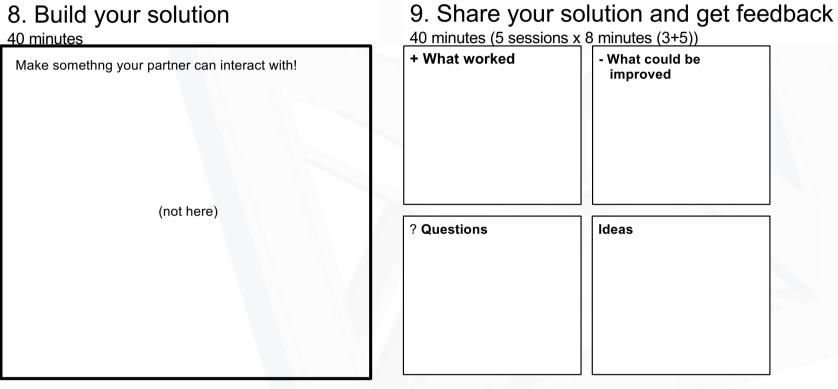
## Prototype: Build your solution





#### **Build and test**

8. Build your solution





## **Pitching solutions**

## **Test: Collect feedbacks on prototype**



## Recap and closing

- Importance of wearing other people's shoes
- Once you have an idea/solution, it is fundamental to prototype it and share it
- Central role of collaboration: innovation is a team game
- Value of having a bias towards action

# rganizational architecture as conditions for Creativity: "Operating" and "Innovating"

**Organizations** 

ations	Operating organization	Innovating organization
Structure	Bureaucratic. Specialization	Flat organization without
	and division of labor.	hierarchical control. Task-
	Hierarchical control. Defined	oriented project teams. Fuzzy
	organizational boundaries.	organizational boundaries.
Processes	Emphasis on eliminating	Emphasis on enhancing
	variation (e.g. six-sigma). Top-	variation. Loose controls to
	down control. Tight financial	foster idea generation.
	controls.	Flexible strategic planning and
		financial control.
Reward	Financial compensation,	Autonomy, recognition, equity
<i>systems</i> gyanalysis.com	promotion up the hierarchy, power, and status symbols.	participation in new ventures.

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## Organizational architecture: IDEO

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GYkb6vfKMI4
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=16p9YRF0l-g
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ASvd2toIA6s
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M66ZU2PCIcM
   SHOPPING CART PROJECT

## Take-home messages

- Innovation is a process that can be stimulated and managed
- There are different types of innovation: product, process, positioning and paradigm but also incremental vs radical vs disruptive
- There are different sources of innovation: internal (creativity, organizational structure) and external (environment, competitors and partners)
- The main facilitator of innovation is culture
- Effective tool to design and implement innovation are «Design thinking» and «Business model Canvass» that allows to map the actual situation of a company as well as identify areas of incremental as well as radical innovation

## Take-home messages

- You can introduce business model innovation starting from value proposition and revising other business model canvas elements accordingly.
- Collaborations and partnerships are one of the main enablers of innovation and requires governance.
- Collaborations can support also public innovation creation and implementation
- Storytelling is a powerful tool of change and innovation since it helps you in effectively communicating your culture and value proposition both internally and externally