

From Aim to Action with Holacracy™

Aim / Purpose (Broader Circle)

Why does the circle exist?

- ▶ What does the broader context need of this circle?
- ▶ What unique function or service can this circle provide?

Strategic Direction (Strategy Meetings)

What direction should we head to reach our aim?

- ▶ What overarching themes should guide our choices?
- ▶ What big initiatives will we pursue now?

Governance Structure (Governance Meetings)

How will we work together?

- ▶ What roles do we need to pursue our strategy?
- ▶ What activities will each role own (accountabilities)?
- ▶ What authorities or limits of authority are needed?
- ▶ What policies are needed to guide our work?

Projects (Tactical Meetings)

What specific projects or outcomes are needed now?

- ▶ What's the outcome we seek for each?
- ▶ Is this a project to tackle now or backlog for later?

Actions (Continual)

What next-actions will we take to move things forward?

- ▶ For each project, what's the next physical action needed?
- ▶ For each tension, what's the next physical action needed?
- ▶ Who will take each action?

Organic Structure

Each Circle:

- has a Scope & an Aim/Purpose
- self-organizes within that Scope for that Purpose
- structures itself through its own governance
- gets work done via lean operational processes

Circles are organized in a Hierarchy:

- Circles with broader scope include more focused sub-circles
- Lead Links connect broader circles to sub-circles
- Rep Links connect sub-circles to broader circles

Dynamic Steering Mantras

Shift from Predict-and-Control to Sense-and-Respond

At all levels of organization, in all circles, remember:

- Get real data, steer continuously; short cycles, incremental steps
- Any issue can be revisited at any time
- The goal is a workable decision, not a "best" decision
- When do we need to decide?
- Delay all decisions to the last responsible moment
- What's the smallest incremental step we can take?
- Will it cause definite harm, or can we try it and revisit later?
- How can we make it safe or practical to try it now?
- Is it workable? If not, how can we make it workable to try it?
- It's about the organization and its purpose, not the people