



HUMAN SYSTEMS
DYNAMICS INSTITUTE

Nothing Is Intractable

Live Virtual Workshop
February 2016

Nothing is intractable.



HUMAN SYSTEMS
DYNAMICS INSTITUTE

What is the problem?



Intractability

Wicked problems can't be solved because they are:

- ▶ Unpredictable
- ▶ Open to external influences
- ▶ Massively entangled
- ▶ Without root cause
- ▶ Multi-faceted
- ▶ Never exactly the same twice
- ▶ And . . .





Why so many wicked problems now?

Conditions for them are becoming more common:

- ▶ Fast communication
- ▶ Global enterprise
- ▶ Diversity of many kinds
- ▶ Scarce resources
- ▶ Increasing population
- ▶ Mobility of populations
- ▶ Economic complexities
- ▶ Income and wealth disparities
- ▶ And . . .





**So what can you do when you
can't find a solution?**



Three Conditions—Three Options



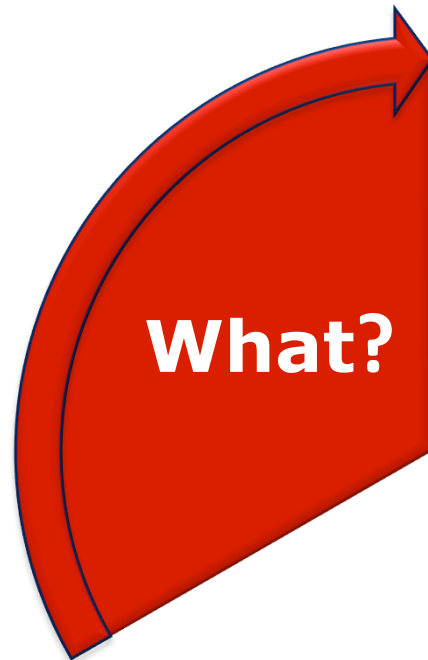


HUMAN SYSTEMS
DYNAMICS INSTITUTE

Adaptive Action



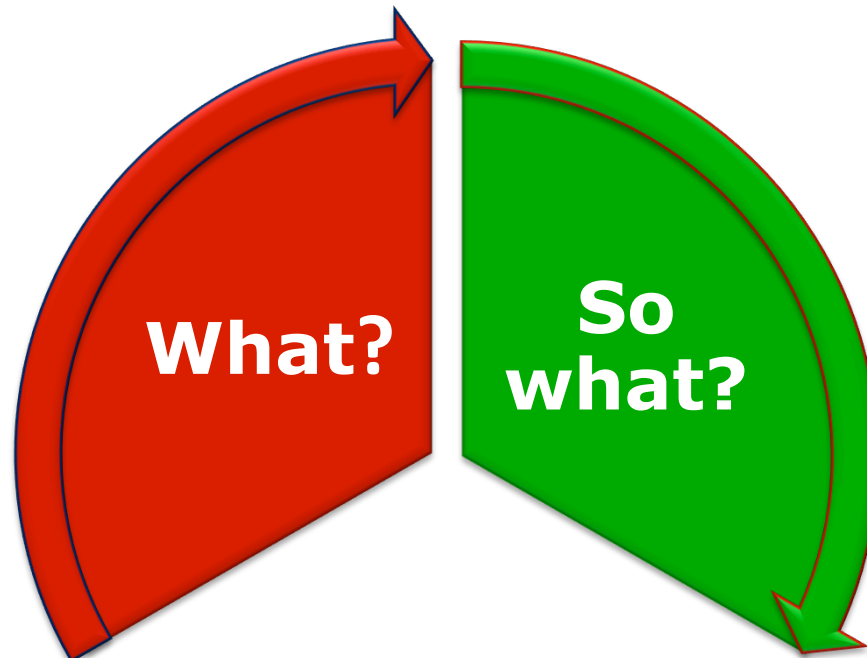
Adaptive Action



What are current patterns?
What do you observe?
What surprises you?
What happened before?
What are people saying?
What is the research?
What . . .



Adaptive Action



So what are the tensions?

So what is important?

So what options do we have? So what is success?

So what . . .



Adaptive Action

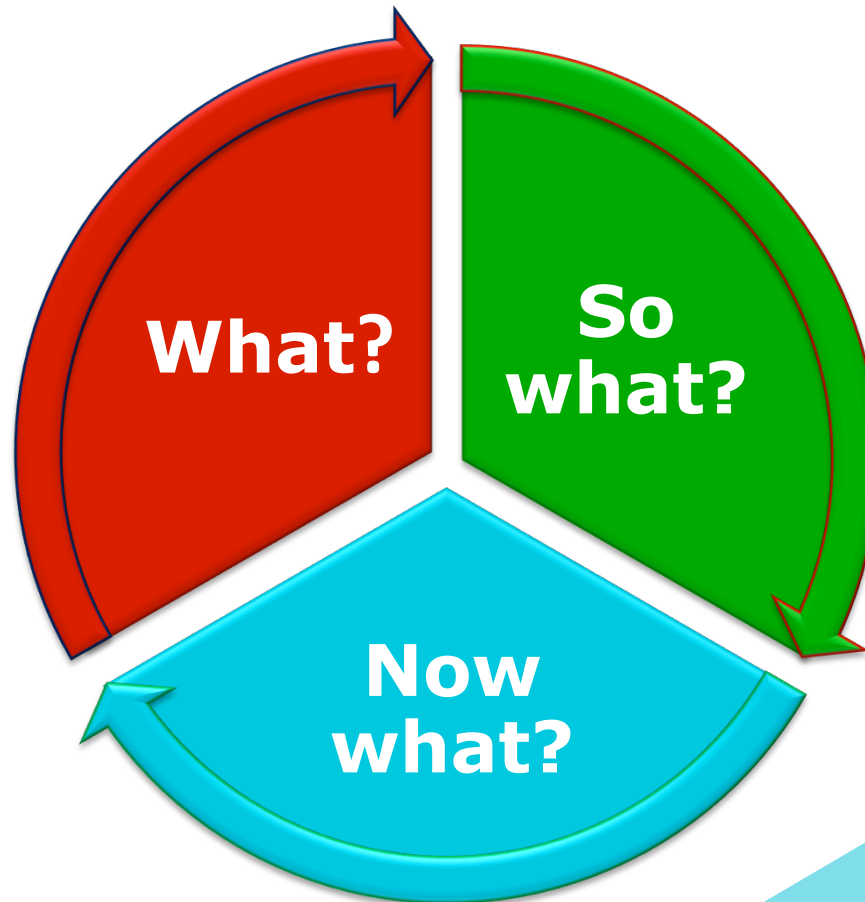
Now what will we
do?

Now what will we
communicate?

Now what will we
measure?

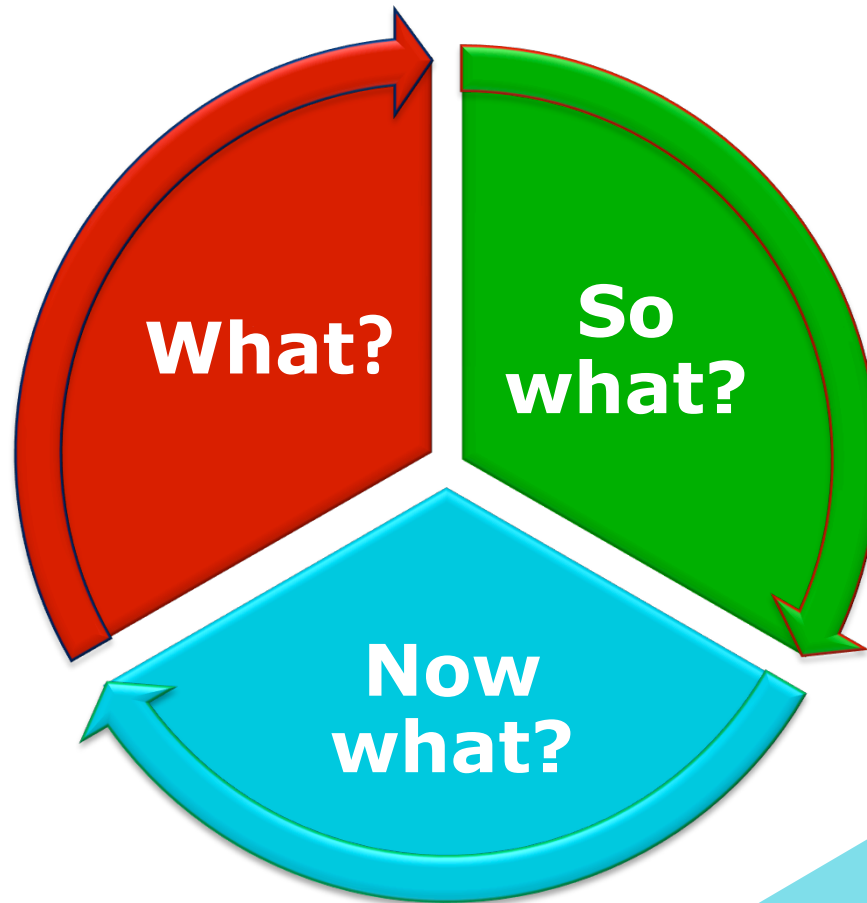
Now what will we
look for next?

Now what . . .





Adaptive Action





HUMAN SYSTEMS
DYNAMICS INSTITUTE

Pattern Logic



WHAT? See the world in new ways

- ▶ What is the same?
- ▶ What is different?
- ▶ What is connected?





SO WHAT? Understand in useful ways

So what tensions are there in the

- ▶ Similarities?
- ▶ Differences?
- ▶ Connections?





NOW WHAT? Take Action for Change

Now what can I do to change the:

- ▶ Similarities?
- ▶ Differences?
- ▶ Connections?





HUMAN SYSTEMS
DYNAMICS INSTITUTE

Inquiry



Stand in Inquiry

Turn judgement into curiosity

Turn conflict into shared exploration

Turn defensiveness into self-reflection

Turn assumptions into questions





So what do we mean: Nothing Is Intractable?



Three Conditions—Three Options





Learn more . . .

Webinars:

- ▶ Education
- ▶ Live Virtual Workshops

Online:

- ▶ Adaptiveaction.org
- ▶ HSDinstitute.org
- ▶ Wiki.hsdinstitute.org

Adaptive Action Labs:

- ▶ HSD Professional Certification
- ▶ Coaching
- ▶ Leadership in Health Professions Education
- ▶ Peace and Conflict with EMU



Join us for our upcoming webinars

Feb 4, 7 pm CST Teacher Stories for Change	<i>Stories about Setting Conditions for Powerful Learning (in spite of the TEST)</i>
Mar 3, 11 am CST Live Virtual Workshop	<i>Act at the Edge: Lead in Complexity</i>
Mar 3, 7 pm CST Teacher Stories for Change	<i>How Do Stories Support Students of All Ages?</i>
Mar 17, 11 am CST Quarterly Associates Meeting	<i>Open to all – hear how associates are applying HSD in diverse settings</i>