# The Nature of Organizational Change

**Bringing Sustainable Change Without Position** 



Made with **GAMMA** 

# **Organizations Through Three Lenses**

### **Machines**

Power derived from formal position in the hierarchy.

Rational System Perspective

# **Community of People**

Power derived from relationships human interactions with competing goals, purposes.

**Natural System Perspective** 

#### **External Environment**

Sources from outside influencing organization which must align to survive and thrive.

Open System Perspective

# **Shared Values**

Common beliefs and goals- Form a strategic vision and urgent need.

# **Relationships**

Connections and trust. Build allies, guiding coalition

# **Participation**

Active engagement together. Enlist a volunteer army. Sustain acceleration

# **Support**

Mutual help and resources. Remove barriers, Quick wins. continue momentum. Ingrain and institute the change

These perspectives serve as lenses to examine key aspects of the organization, helping leaders design sustainable solutions for lasting change

# **Why Change Is Hard**

# PROCESS OF UNLEARNING AND RELEARNING

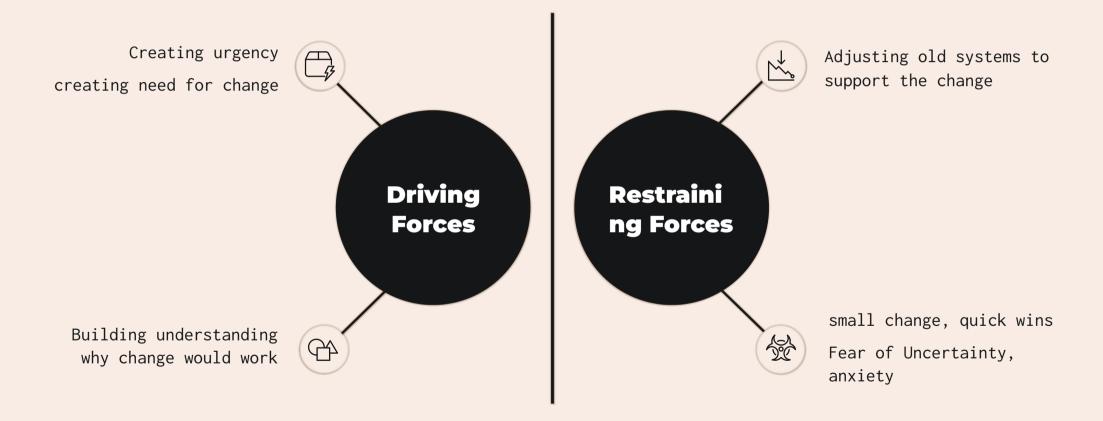
# **The Ice Cube Metaphor**

Organizations are like ice cubes—fixed in particular ways of working. To reshape them, you must first unfreeze, then change, and finally refreeze to hold the new shape.

Change fails when we skip unfreezing or forget to institutionalize new ways of working.



# **Force Field Analysis**



Change happens when driving forces outweigh restraining forces. Success requires building up drivers while undercutting restraints through unfreezing, changing, and refreezing.

# **Five Sources of Power**



# **Legitimate Power**

Derived from your position in the hierarchy—where you sit in the organizational structure.



#### **Reward Power**

Ability to distribute resources, bonuses, time off, or meaningful assignments to others.



### **Coercive Power**

Capacity to withhold rewards or deliver negative consequences—use carefully and sparingly.



# **Expert Power**

Influence from valuable expertise—continually learn and refine skills so others seek your unique value.



# **Referent Power**

Derived from personal likability, charisma, or character traits that followers admire and identify with.



# Leading Change Without Authority

1

## **Build Networks**

Cultivate both strong ties (support and trust) and weak ties (diverse information and new opportunities). Fill structural holes by connecting disconnected groups.

2

# **Co-opt Antagonists**

Bring potential resisters on board early. Incorporate their concerns while keeping your original goal intact.

3

# **Make the First Move**

Be proactive rather than reactive. Acting first puts opponents on the defensive and prevents being left behind.

4

# **Create Compelling Vision**

Be a good storyteller. Paint a vision connecting your action to a larger purpose people believe in.

# **Tools to Overcome Resistance**





# **Education & Communication**

Explain what, why, and how through multiple channels.

Managers often underestimate the need for communication.

# **Participation & Involvement**

Gain knowledge and commitment. Involvement increases buy-in and surfaces valuable insights.





# **Facilitation & Support**

Provide training, coaching, and emotional support to build confidence that people can succeed.

# **Negotiation**

Make deals or remove obstacles for those who might lose out, turning resistance into support.

Each tool has strengths and limitations. Most common pitfall: using only one or two approaches instead of multiple tactics.

# **Kotter's 8-Step Change Model**



# **Create Urgency**

Demonstrate the need for change- organization as system responding to outside changing forces



# **Build Coalition**

Form a powerful guiding team



# **Create Vision**

Develop compelling future direction



# **Communicate**

Share vision through multiple channels



# **Empower Action**

Remove obstacles and enable people



# **Create Quick Wins**

Generate visible early successes



#### **Consolidate Gains**

Build on momentum for more change



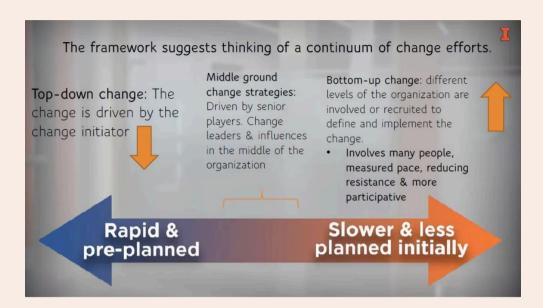
#### **Anchor in Culture**

Make changes stick through culture

Making a significant mistake in any step can have devastating consequences. The effort is no stronger than its weakest link.

# **Your Change Toolkit**

# **Choosing Strategies for Change**



- You need to match your change strategy to the change situation
- 2. Change which simply requires compliance is fit for the left of the spectrum.
- 3. Change that requires commitment is consistent with right side of spectrum.
- 4. Communicate relentlessly—use multiple channels, never assume people understand
- 5. Always approaching change same way is a bad strategy.
- 6. Be persistent—meaningful change takes time; those who persist wear down opposition



# Major changes are difficult.

Avoid the Pitfalls

Underestimating the effort required and the importance of that step

Making a significant mistake in any of the steps can have devastating consequences.

The effort is no stronger than its weakest link



# Lead the Change

You have the power to drive organizational change without formal authority. Use these frameworks, build your networks, understand resistance, and persist. Change is challenging, but with the right approach, you can bring sustainable transformation.

#### **Understand Power**

Leverage all five sources

# **Build Networks**

Connect and influence

## **Overcome Resistance**

Use multiple tools

## **Persist**

Stay committed to vision

