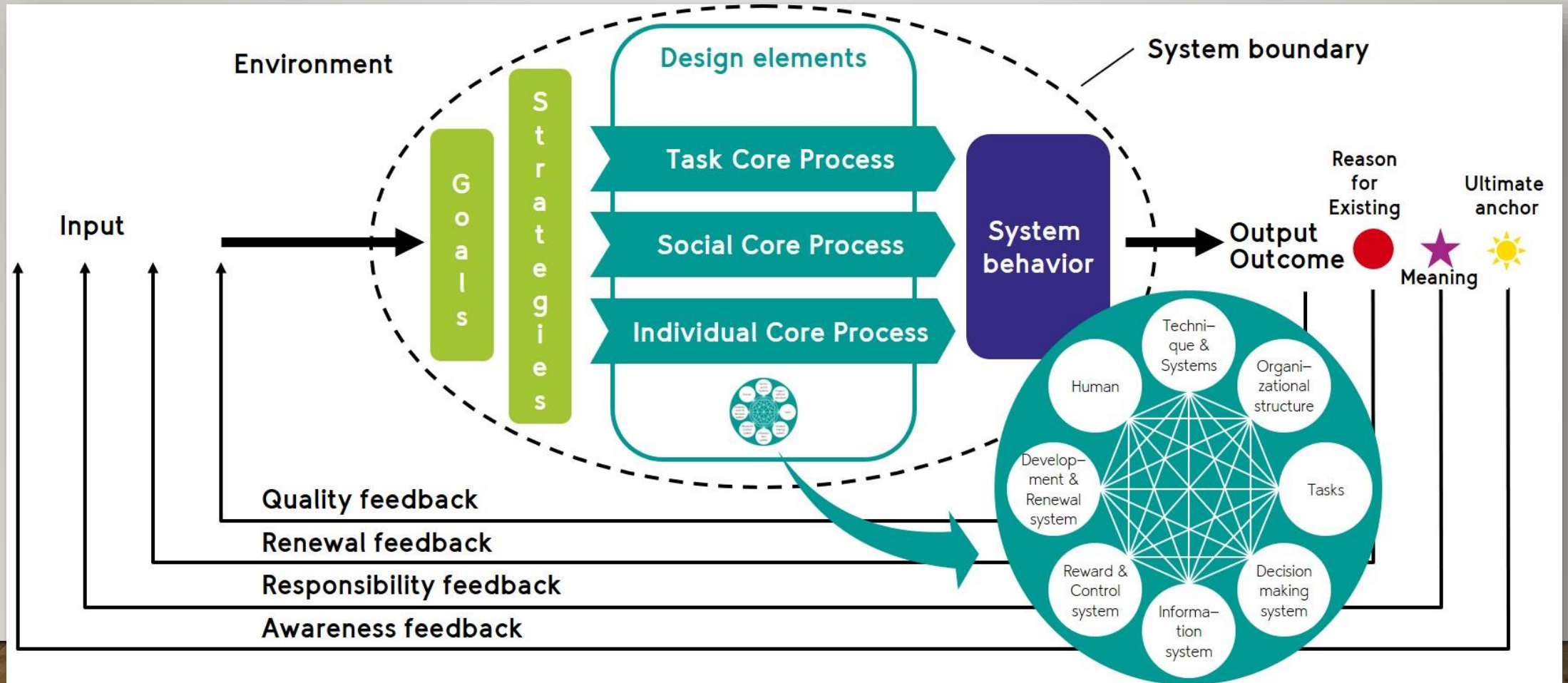




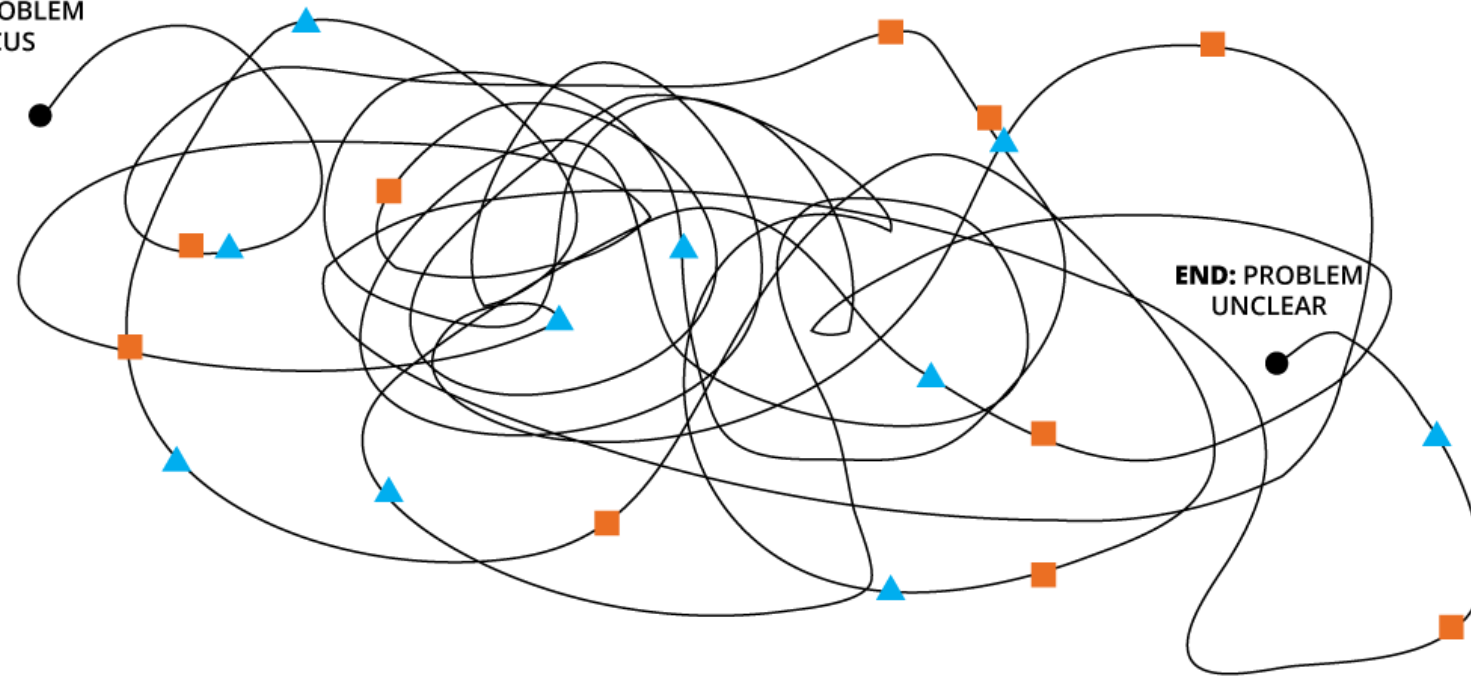
“FUTURE-PROOFING?”

Healthcare as a “System”



Tackling “Wicked Problems”

**START: PROBLEM
IN FOCUS**



-  RELATED PROBLEM BROUGHT UP
-  SOLUTION INTRODUCED

Futurists in a Pandemic

Financial
Crisis

Global
Pandemic

Extreme
Weather
Event

Rogue AI

PLAYING GAMES – THE THING FROM THE FUTURE



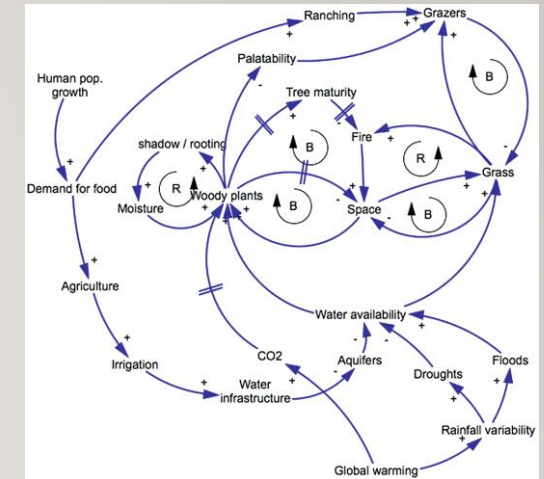
Large
Scale
Multi-
nation
War

Discover
Aliens

ELE
Asteroid
Strike

Radical
Climate
Change

Futurists' Toolkit for Re-imagining Health Systems



<p>The passing storm</p> <p>The pandemic is managed due to effective responses from governments to contain the virus, but is not without lasting repercussions, which disproportionately affect SMBs and lower- and middle-income individuals and communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relatively constrained disease dynamic Effective health system and policy response 	<p>Lone wolves</p> <p>Prolonged pandemic period, spurring governments to adopt isolationist policies, shorten supply chains, and increase surveillance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe, rolling pandemics Insufficient global coordination and weak policy response
<p>Good company</p> <p>Governments around the world struggle to handle the crisis alone, with large companies stepping up as a key part of the solution and an acceleration of trends toward "stakeholder capitalism."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More prolonged pandemic Collaboration to control the pandemic led by large companies 	<p>Sunrise in the east</p> <p>China and other East Asian nations are more effective in managing the virus and take the reins as primary powers on the world stage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe pandemic Collaborative health response led by East Asian countries

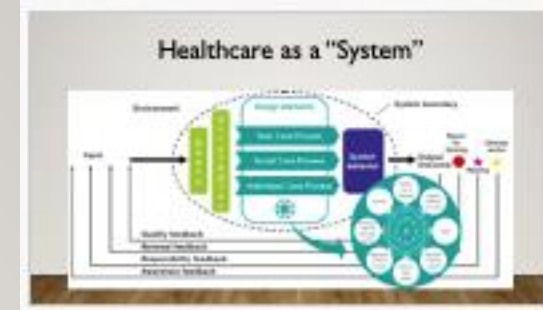
OUTLINE NOTES

- Plurality of the future
- Mutability of the future
- Aversion to “prediction” of the future
- Dystopian images of the future vs Utopian
- “Running away from” vs “Running towards”



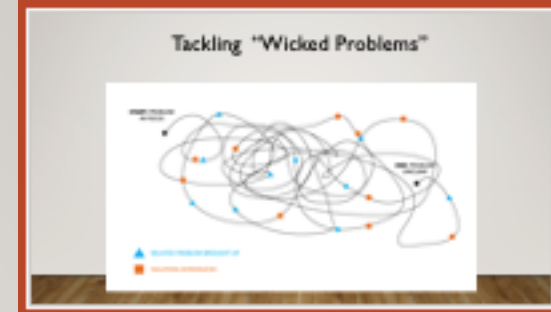
OUTLINE NOTES

- Curiosity about components and interactions
- Desire to model
- Then to explore alternative future states – “scenarios”
- The optimization of the system may require active sub-optimization of the components



OUTLINE NOTES

- Public health as a “system within a system”
- Analysis-based approaches to problem-solving vs synthesis-based/holistic approaches
- Tendency of the system to return to base state



OUTLINE NOTES

- Pandemic as an instance of a large impact event
- Instructive benefit of gaming out society's response to such large impact events
- In retrospect the pandemic response reveals low level of foresight based response planning (more focus on recovery)
- Gaming exposes system vulnerabilities
- Gaming exposes over-optimizations or fragility that arises from excessive complexity



OUTLINE NOTES

- Practical implication based on 2011 futures research
- Application of Futures techniques: Environmental Scanning, Systems Thinking, Causal Layered Analysis and Scenario Planning
- Prime the minds of system designers for true collaboration, even across competing positions in the system
- Precedent in the political history of South Africa



Q&A NOTES

- **“How to kick off”**: integrated conversation with system actors, power or societal action (cf “disruption” in business)
- **“Scenarios on Covid”**: Institute for Futures Research – Dr Morne Mostert webinar circa April. Highlighted two driver dimensions, viz. covid virulence continuum and health system response continuum. Also CLA on Covid conducted in North America exposed some interesting core beliefs about pandemics in general. Opened the door to considering “non-traditional” and “non-technical” approaches to pandemic resilience i.e. designers should explore other medical traditions to inform a more context-compatible health system.

