





## Navigating the Wilds of Capability Mapping

Webinar | hosted by Benchmark Consulting

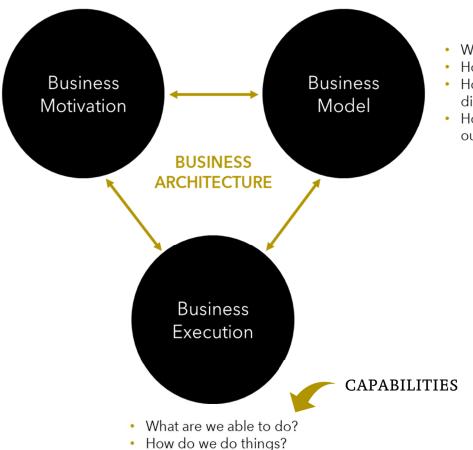




## Capabilities Are Integral to Business Architecture



- Why do we exist?
- What do we stand for?
- What do we want to achieve?
- What is our course ahead to get there?



- · What value do we offer to whom?
- How do we create and deliver value?
- How do we capture and disseminate value?
- How do we sustain our value capture?

How do we do things?
 How do we operate?

Reference: https://acrossandahead.com/en/blog-en/the-business-architecture-triangle/

## Maintain a Balance in the Capability Mapping Spectrum







#### **Precision**

- Rigid concept
- Unfamiliar language
- Conceptual distinction

#### **Usability**

- Flexible concept
- Familiar language
- Conceptual simplification

## Don't Underestimate the Power of a Meaningful Picture

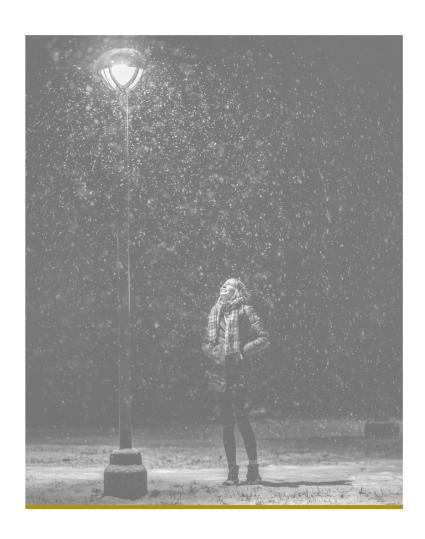




'A picture is worth a 1000 words.'

## Beware of the Streetlight Effect





'A policeman sees a drunk man searching for something under a streetlight and asks what the drunk has lost. He says he lost his keys and they both look under the streetlight together. After a few minutes the policeman asks if he is sure he lost them here, and the drunk replies, no, and that he lost them in the park. The policeman asks why he is searching here, and the drunk replies, "this is where the light is."

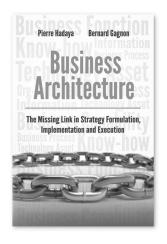
## Terminology

## The Capability Concept Is Defined in Different Ways





A particular ability or capacity that a business may possess or exchange to achieve a specific purpose or outcome

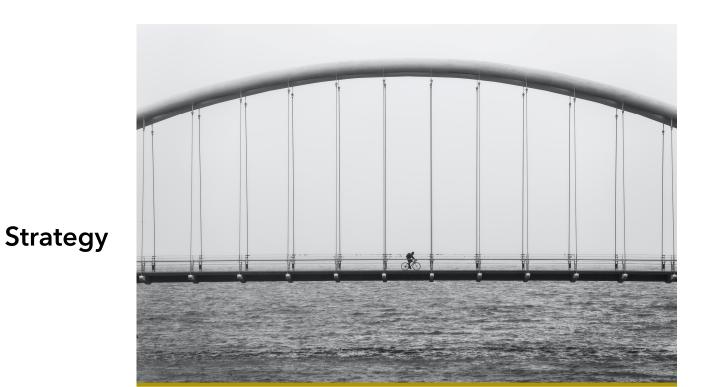


An integrated set of building blocks designed to work together to attain a specific result

## Capabilities Help Bridge the Gap from Strategy to Execution



#### **BRIDGING THE GAP**



**Execution** 

Dr. Daniel Simon | Navigating the Wilds of Capability Mapping | 7 October 2021

## Capabilities Can Be Defined at Different Levels of Abstraction







- Ability to save in-town travel time without harming the environment
- Ability to move / overcome short to medium distances
- Ability to steer, pedal, balance, brake etc.

- Ability to win championship titles
- Ability to shoot (many) goals
- Ability to pass, tackle, hit crosses etc.

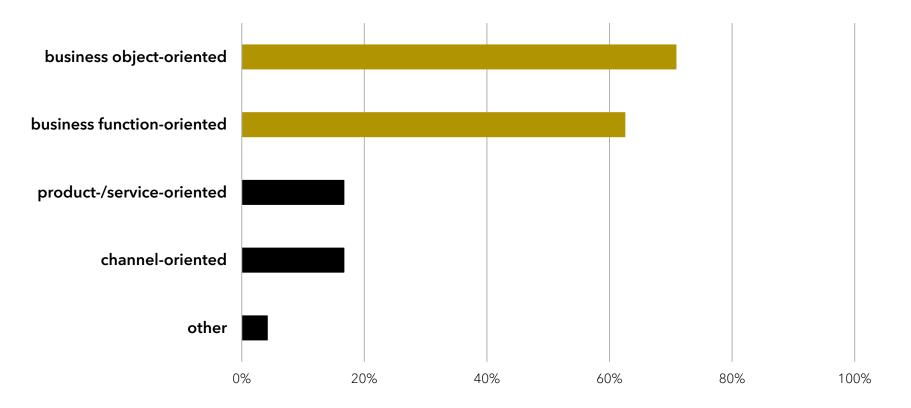
## Capabilities May Be Based on Business Objects and/or Functions





# How do you identify, name, and discriminate between high-level capabilities in your organization's capability map?

- multiple choices possible -



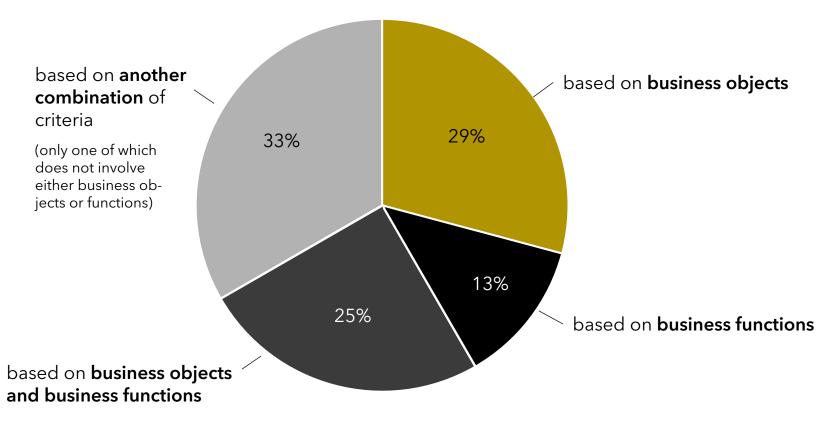
## Capabilities May Be Based on Business Objects and/or Functions



SURVEY

# How do you identify, name, and discriminate between high-level capabilities in your organization's capability map?

- multiple choices possible -



## Object-based Capabilities Are NOT Just About Information



#### Action taken against ...

... sth. / sb. (i.e., a "real-world" object)



Design ...



Structure ...



ldentify ...



Validate ...



Manage performance of ...



Manage information on ...



Action(s) taken against an agreement

Action(s) taken against a campaign

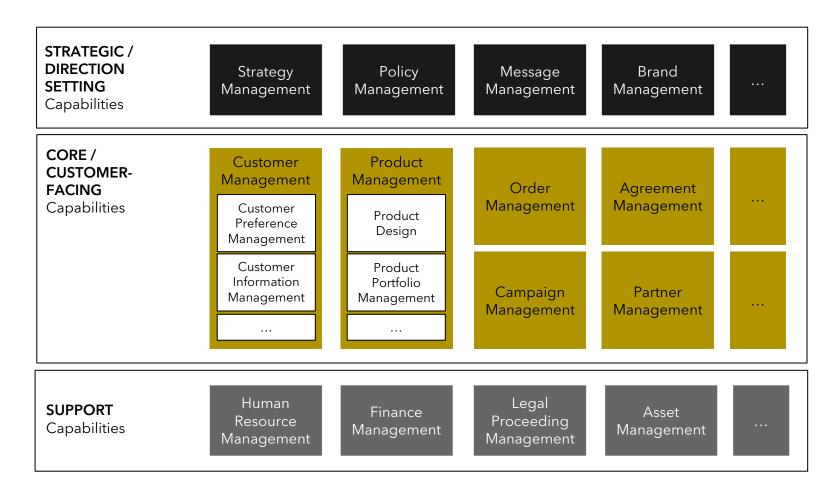
Action(s) taken against a product

Reference: A Guide to the Business Architecture Body of Knowledge ® (BIZBOK ® Guide), Version 10.0.

## An Object-based Capability Map Provides Clear Boundaries



Example

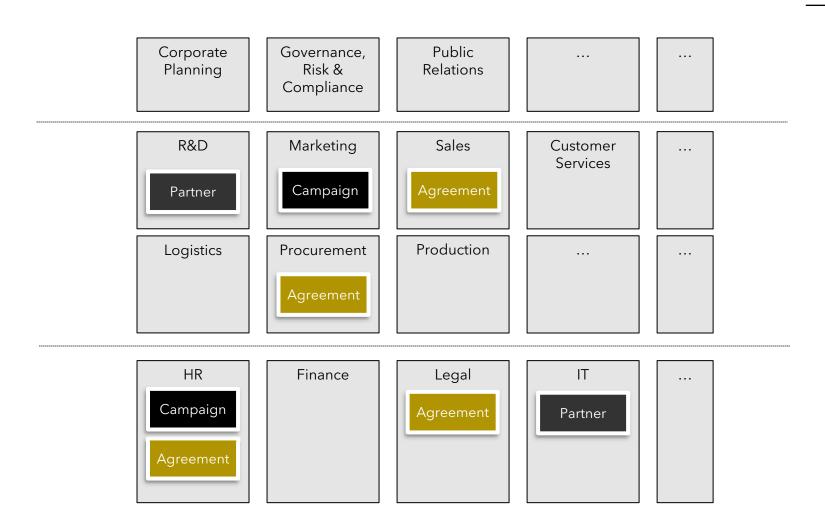


Reference: A Guide to the Business Architecture Body of Knowledge ® (BIZBOK ® Guide), Version 10.0.

## A Function-based Capability Map Will Be Readily Understood



Example



## Beware of the "That's Us" Phenomenon



Example

Corporate Planning	Governance, Risk & Compliance	Public Relations		
Research & Development	Marketing	Sales	Customer Services	
Logistics	Procurement	Production		
HR	Finance	Legal	IT	

## It's Not Just a Matter of Naming



Example

#### **Human Resource Management**

- Ability to manage information on human resources
- Ability to capture preferences of human resources
- Ability to determine the performance of human resources
- Ability to assign and enforce access of human resources to sth.

#### **Human Resource Management**

Human Resource Information Management

Human Resource Preference Management

Human Resource Performance Determination

Human Resource Authentication and Authorization

(Reference: BIZBOK ® Guide, Version 10.0)

#### vs. Human Resources

- Ability to recruit human resources
- Ability to develop human resources
- Ability to set attractive compensation structures
- Ability to provide a safe working environment

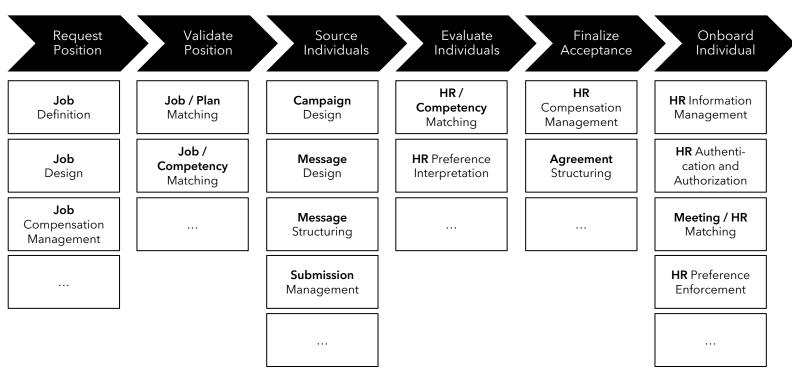
# Human Resources Recruiting Learning & Development Compensation and Benefits Workplace Safety

## Object-based Capabilities Need to Be Put Into Context



Example

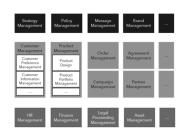
#### **Onboard Human Resource**



Reference: A Guide to the Business Architecture Body of Knowledge ® (BIZBOK ® Guide), Version 10.0.

## Note the Differences Between the Two Approaches





#### Capabilities bounded by business objects

- Provide a view of what is common across business lines, locations, and functions
- Usually need more explanation
- Require something in addition (e.g., value streams) to be put into context
- Can help master organizational silos, including functional ones
- Foster cross-functional re-use and leverage of synergy potential

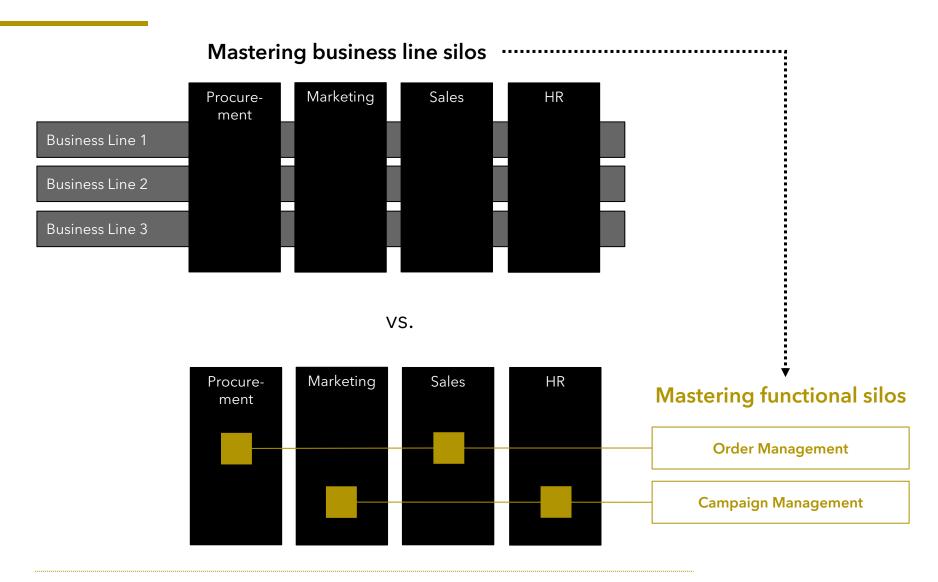


#### vs. Capabilities bounded by functions

- Provide a view of what is common across business lines and local units
- Are likely to be more easily grasped
- Are prone to overlaps
- Are likely to be less independent from organizational aspects
- May be less stable at lower levels
- Can help master organizational silos
- Foster functional re-use

## Capability Mapping Is Much About Mastering Silos

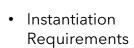




## Relationships

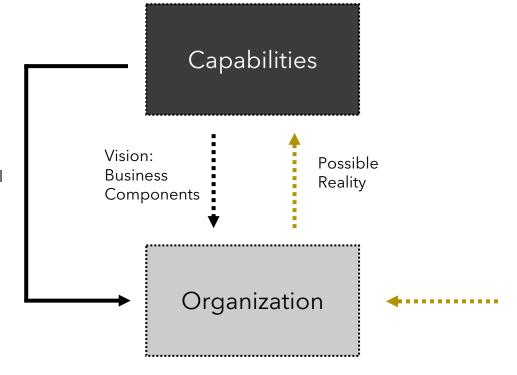
## Capabilities Have a Role to Play in Organization Design





- Pace Layering
- Operating Model Aspects (e.g., Standardization / Integration)

• ...



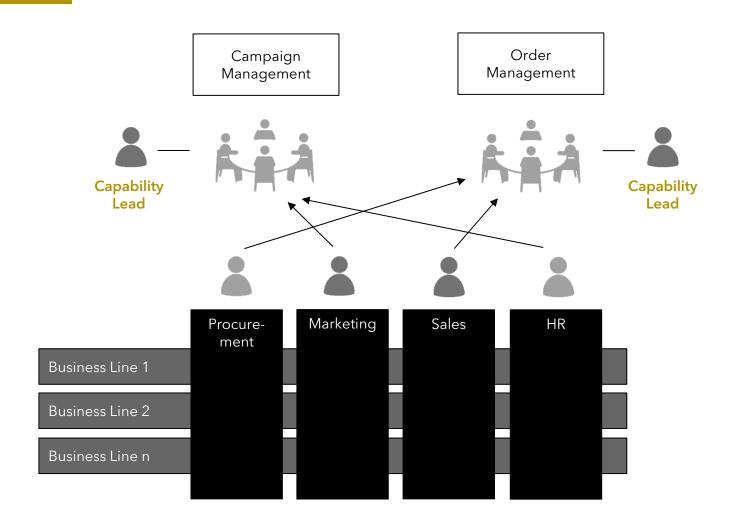
#### Influencers

- Political Aspects
- Social Aspects
- Performance
- Motivational Motives
- ...

## Relationships

## Capabilities May Help Drive Cross-Functional Collaboration

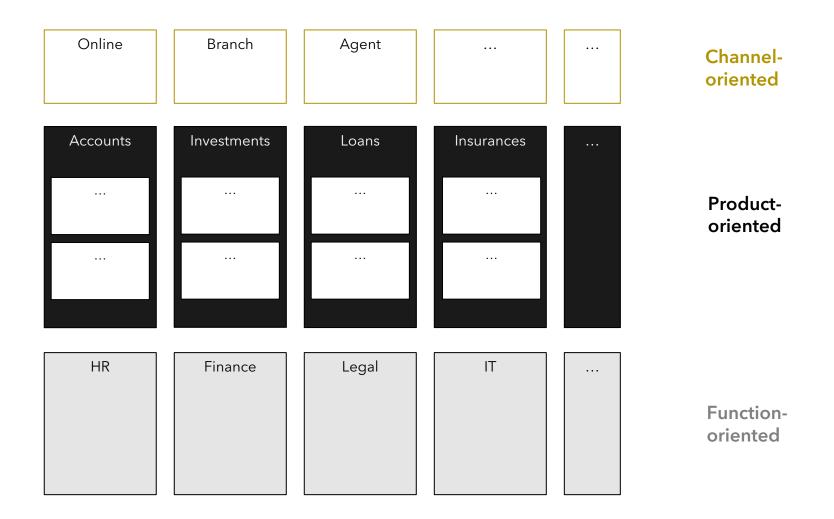




## Capabilities May Be Organized by Additional Criteria



Example



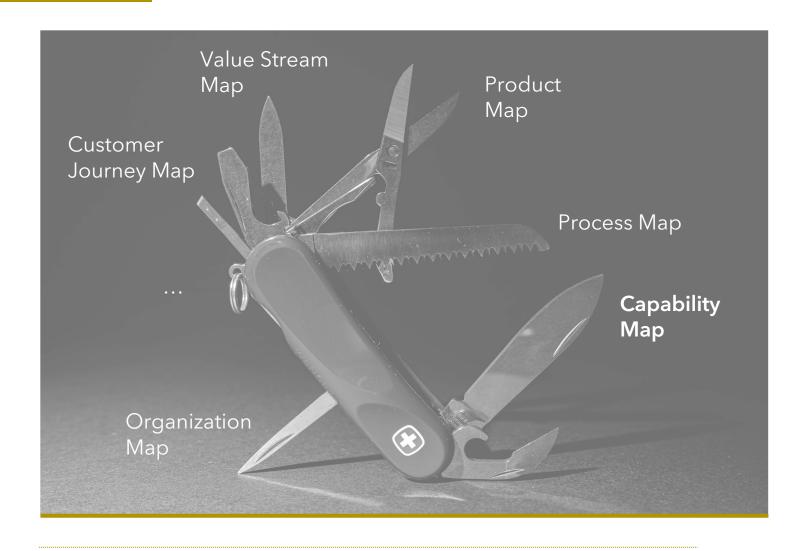
## There Are Multiple Views of the Business





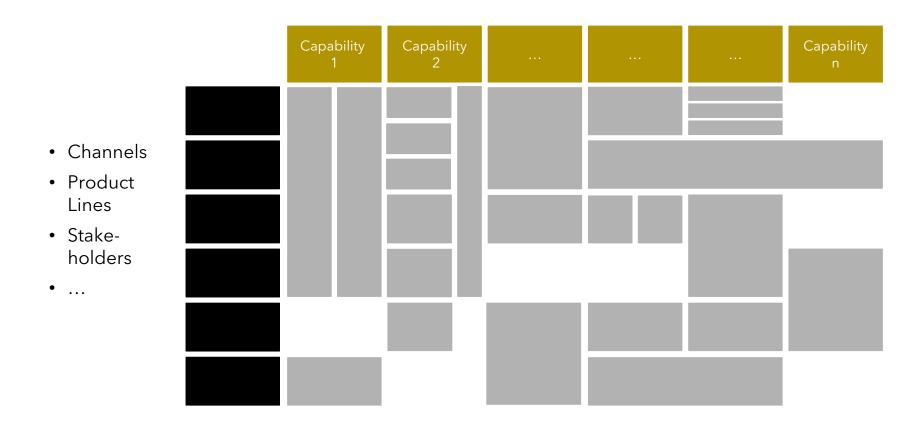
## The Capability Map Is One Blade of Your "Swiss Army Knife"







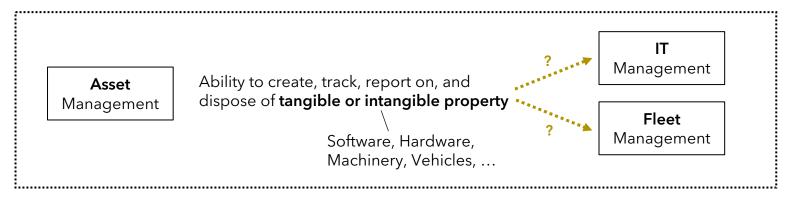




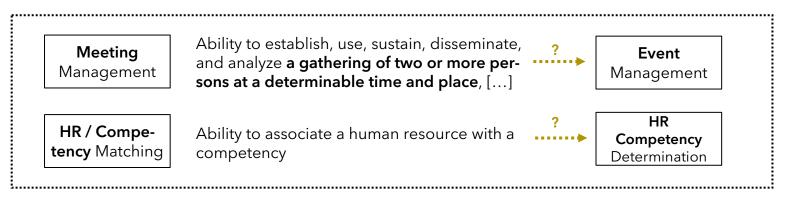
## Make Use of Reference Models, but Don't Be Ruled by Them



#### Do not overgeneralize the business!



## Capabilities are named and defined by the individuals and business units who have and exercise those capabilities!



Reference: A Guide to the Business Architecture Body of Knowledge ® (BIZBOK ® Guide), Version 10.0.

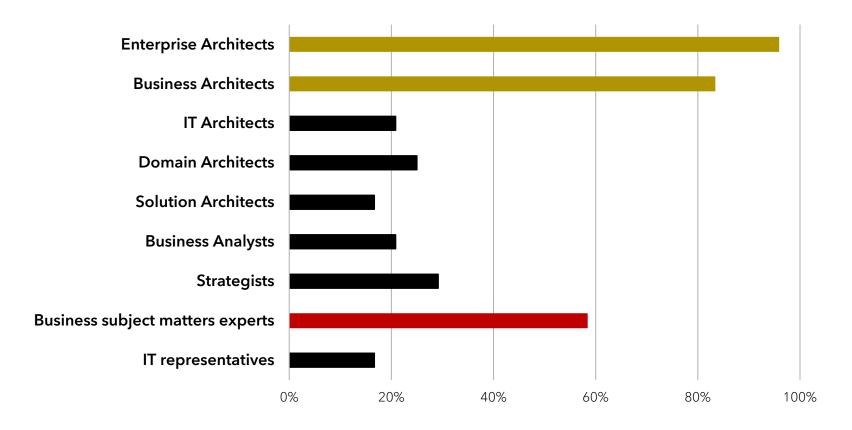
#### Make Sure to Involve Your Stakeholders





### Who has been involved in developing and maintaining the capability map?

- multiple choices possible -



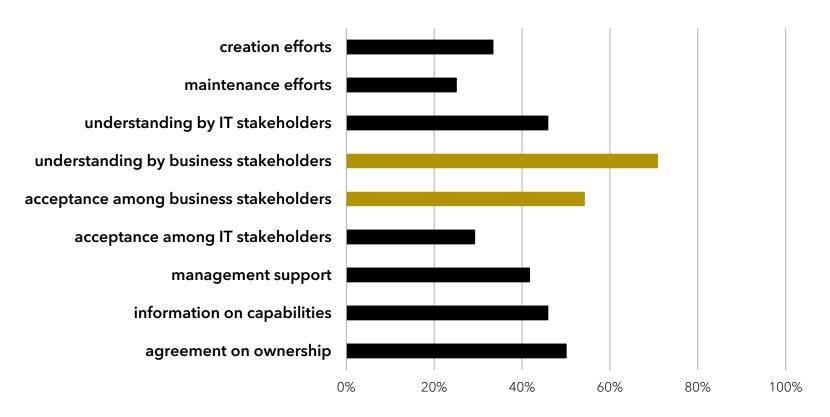
#### Make Sure to Involve Your Stakeholders





# What challenges have you been facing while developing, maintaining, and using the capability map?

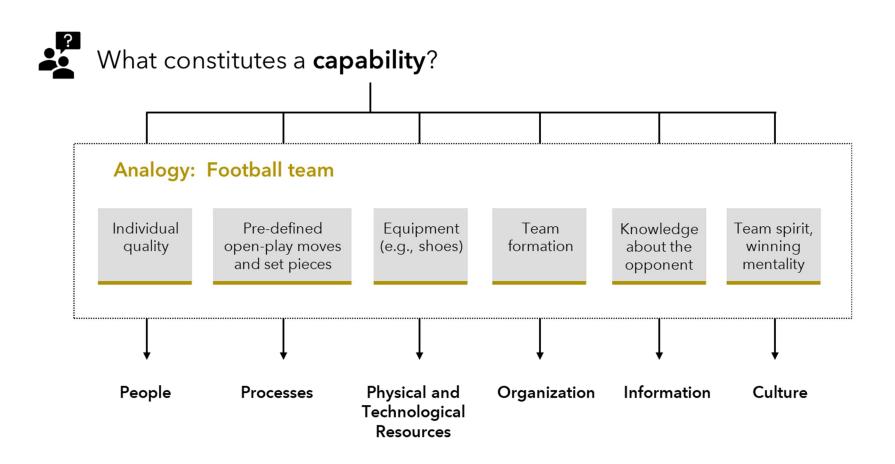
- multiple choices possible -



## Use Analogies and Metaphors to Foster the Understanding



Example



Reference: https://acrossandahead.com/en/blog-en/on-what-constitutes-a-capability/

#### Reflection

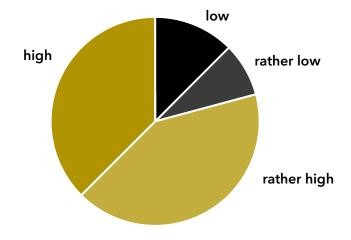
## Take a Balanced Approach to Capability Mapping



- Different views help gain different insights into the business.
- ! It's not only about the capability name, but also about what it's meant to cover.

! Don't get lost in mapping discussions and make decisions.

How would you rate the usefulness of the capability map (i.e., benefits of using the capability map) in your organization's usage scenarios?







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